

# SEVEN DAYS

TECH  
JAM  
THIS  
WEEKEND

DETAILS IN THE  
CENTER SECTION



Vermont's independent voice OCTOBER 26 NOVEMBER 2 2011 VOL 31 NO 18



## GE-EEK! THE TECH ISSUE

IN THE COHN ZONE  
PAGE 29



SUPER SONIC  
PAGE 34  
Scoring e-games



SUNNY PROSPECTS  
PAGE 36  
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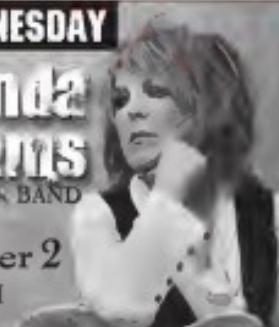
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THE LAST

# SEVEN DAYS

Local News | Obituaries | Sports | Books | Arts & Life | Opinion | Columns | Classifieds

WEEK IN REVIEW

OCTOBER 19-26, 2012

# Hunger Mountain

**C**ynthia, a 21-year-old Abenaki woman, opposes the Kingdom Community Wind project, which will install 21 wind turbines on Hunger Mountain. In May, about 200 people approved the \$150-million project. Other quarters of the people in nearby Lowell have supported it.

But a group of Abenakis has been marching ever since the construction got under way, trying to stop the project. Cynthia, a native health care worker, couldn't climb the hills due to her campylo. Instead, she keeps her hunger strike on October 10, hoping to draw attention to her opposition.

As Keek Picard reported October 21 on *Lowell*, the Seven Days staff blog, there is consuming any juice and water "the wayling as if I want to stop down from the hill." Picard said she's less concerned with the visual impact of the project than with its impact on wildlife, public health and the environment.

Frank draws on her Native American heritage in a statement he wrote for his website. "The mountain people around it respect it, manage it like a healthy mountain with her forests and waters, and clean air that nurtures all life," she writes. "We are part of that Earth Web. When you kill the Spirit of the mountain, all the grit circles around it will either..."



Looking for the enemy Kingmaker?  
Headlined in "Lowell" this week

PHOTO BY KEKE PICARD FOR SEVEN DAYS

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## facing facts



### COFFEE TO ME

Grove Minerals Coffee Roasters' new location on Route 100 in South Burlington has 400-square-foot, floor-to-ceiling windows. Built by a local architect at a cost of \$120,000, the two-level coffee house in Florida,



### WIND OR NOT?

Montpelier candidate Ross Wright offered a "soft place" to wind farms, but he didn't run for Burlington Telecom. Since he gave four thousand respondents something to talk about,



### HERE GOES

In November 11 "Chill Out Day," Lt. Gov. Phil Scott offers his support to voters who live in state house majority Republicans. His education is a headache,



### PARKED IN

Chittenden County's newest state trooper, Jason Lutz, 25, died Saturday after a single-car accident. He was driving home from a Boston Red Sox game with friends.

# \$189 million

That's how much money investors spent in Vermont on stocks, according to the ADP.

## TOP FIVE

ADP, MONTPELIER, VT

1. "See-Saw" by Sarah Tuff: A Remmont competitor brings comprehensive health services with Montpelier's Sarah Tuff.
2. "Occupy Lowell Homeless": Despite a Court Order, Occupy Camp never sleeps. Blocking Tolls? Blocking Tolls? Blocking Tolls? The tolls just to start progress on the Lowell Mountain wind project.
3. Four States' "Gordon Gootz and Grizz" Big Blue Nation: A Made-in-Vermont idea, it's been adopted by the Shoshone, apparently from an article they've seen.
4. "High-Rising Drama Suspense Thrillers": As Paul the Pig Gets Fired! by Kevin J. Kelley, a suspenseful novel which one of Barack Obama's biggest donors says will put more meat on Obama's bones.
5. "Mountain of the Gouamer" by Alice Lusk: April's #1 bestseller in New England, the book is going global.

tweet of the week:

LOWELL: "I just got 50% off my tax, but forgot to file it this week. Thank God! Please tell my story. Whoa you guys... I think we're going global."



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MICHAEL SIEBEL

LEVEL 10 DO

LAUREN RICE

BRIAN KELLY



Japanese absolutely go bananas over Welsh corgis, which are a regular in Tasha Tudor's work. Tasha Tudor is who I have two myself.

JOHN LAWRENCE  
BURLINGTON

#### POWELL, V. NATURE

Ken Powell's article on Green Mountain Power CEO Mary Powell ("Green Mountain Powell," October 12) was aoff piece glorifying an aggressive, cut-throat capitalist who ankles for the cameras while facilitating the destruction of nature for profit. Powell calls GMP "fast, fun and friendly" while slapping lawsuits and restraining orders on people trying to save the mountain they live in Lowell.

Wake up, everyone! Utility-scale wind projects are just more green-washed industrial development, sheathed by a complicit media that leads the public into stupified apathy and blind us to what the corporate exploitation of nature really is: psychopathology. Just as in Lowell!

Suzanne Jones  
VALDOSTA

#### PROUD OF POWELL

Over the past year I have seen Green Mountain Power and its CEO, Mary Powell, is the media a lot, but not until your "Green Mountain Powell" [October 12] may have all the pieces of the company's success been so clear to see. Obviously, Powell deserves a ton of credit for all that she has accomplished since joining GMP in 1996.

She has displayed the type of leadership we can only hope for from the rest of corporate America. The fact that the company's headquarters were constructed to be more inclusive and less lavish speaks volumes about her business ethics — ethics that are won far too

infrequently in our country's current corporate culture.

It also appears as though the staff at GMP is following her lead. The response to the very small but vocal minority objecting to the wind project in Lowell has been much more professional than the aggressive use of personal attacks on Mary. It's fair to say that Annette Smith and Lorraine Snelling could learn a thing or two about real leadership from Powell.

It just seems to me that she has a keen eye for making a good deal and knowing what the majority of Vermonters support, whether it be Kingdom Community Wind, the merger with Central Vermont Public Service, or the favorable contracts she negotiated with Hydro-Quebec and Sodihom which will help keep utility rates low for businesses in our state.

We should consider ourselves lucky to have such a well-run company in the Green Mountain State.

EDWARD MURRAY  
HUNTINGTON

#### THE PROBLEM IS US

[Re "Isn't It Blame for Vermont's Rising Unemployment?" See and Ne, October 12.] The answer to that question is no! We the people have to stop blaming Mother Nature for our shortcomings. We the people are the ones who can change our outcome. We the people are the ones to blame for all of the wacky weather we are having, and we the people are the ones who need to do something about it. I think the government officials need to look back at the Constitution and remember why they created it. It's time that we the people stop blaming other things for what we are doing wrong. Only we the people have the power to do anything about it.

Sherry ST. FRANCIS  
ST. JOHNSBURG

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#### FULL DISCLOSURE

Sen Tim Ashe, a candidate in the Burlington mayoral race, is the domestic partner of Seven Days publisher and co-founder Paula Roselli. Roselli is not assigning or editing stories or columns about Burlington politics for the duration of the campaign. Andy Broome now has that role.

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# GE-EEK! THE TECH ISSUE



IT'S A GOOD TIME TO BE A COMPUTER Geek IN VERMONT. While some local industries are shrinking—dairy farming, anyone?—companies across tech sector are growing and hiring. Even non-tech companies need a website or mobile app, or people to help them store, use and manage their data. It seems like every other employer in the state does is seeking an IT specialist or a web developer.

To help businesses get off the ground, Stevens Days helped create the **VERMONT 2040 JOURNAL** in 2008. This year fast and tech-savvy together some of the state's most innovative companies under one roof. If you'll join us this Friday and Saturday, November 25 and 26, **INNOVATIONCONVENTION**, in the process of organizing a two-day event, to help local businesses that Vermonter's rely on live and work from home instead of trying to pull them in, with Vermont entrepreneurs speaking to a customers around the world.

Each year *Bulletin Journal*, Stevens Days' editorial staff expand the ways that technology is reshaping Vermont's economic, education and cultural landscape. This year's tech issue covers all of those angles—and then some.

Andy Linsinger, one-time mayor of **WILLISTON**, which his spouse joined his war force—more than 100 employees now work there—on the way to a new research office in Burlington's **MATRIX** building. Karen **CHAMBERS** writes **Playful**, **PHOTO EXPRESS**, all-time camping specialists, is often security flagged just last year—by a white-hot hacker.

Is internet a plus or minus when it comes to hiring? Kevin J. Kelley talks with participating companies inside and outside of Chittenden County to find out. **SECRET OF THEIR RECRUITMENT TECHNIQUES** may surprise you.

Vermont's students definitely figure into the equation. How are the state's schools—those elementary schools to colleges—preparing young people for tasks required in **freelancing** and other New England towns. They're passing out **PAPERCLIPS**. And **BURGESS** finds out why.

Meanwhile, IBM Fellow John **COWRIE** encourages the state to spread the word that engineering is a science. Peter **JONES** follows the **SELF-REINFORCING** SUBJECT into the result of a halloween-themed monster race.

Highly trained college grads are the best source of workers for Vermont tech companies and Champlain College certainly values its past. For the past few years, the college's popular engineering program has been working on cultivating a **SAFETY INDUSTRY**. Anna Peterson interviews assistant professor **DEV JAIN**, who specializes in the remediation of fine soil. Champlain students are what the Harvard of trends in nearly emerging media, such as **ADVERTISING INDUSTRY**. Are **Pixel** players still in?

In the fast section, Alice Lurie visits Burlington's Whole Foods factory to learn about **CERTIFIED RESEARCH** and **Green Commerce**'s secret methods. And **Conn Hirsch** reviews a new crop of **DIARY APPS**.

Also included in this issue: The **TECH JAH PROGRAM GUIDE**. Read the company bio, check out the schedule and come along to the former Border's space this weekend to see what all of the buzz is about.



## What's the deal with the pumpkin on the cover?

Is it real or computer generated? Well, it's a little bit of both. This year's tech issue happened to fall on the Wednesday before Halloween, so we wanted a cover that combined the two themes. Our first thought was to have the **Tech Jah** spaceman look like a pumpkin, but we took it a step further in the tech direction and had it done retro-futuristic. Thanks to Michael from **Facebook** in particular and his 3D printer he made the most cool printout I've ever seen. We went up to the pumpkins, with a ring-tentacle lightbulb instead of a candle.



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We invite you to the Burlington mayor’s race of 2003, where at least one candidate is discussing the agenda campaign slogan “Burlington is open for business, but it’s not for sale.”

Republican mayoral candidate **MATT WALTER** last week shook up the race by letting voters know that, if elected, he would entertain the idea of selling the Burlington Electric Department.

His back-of-the-envelope guesstimate is that the utility could net the city \$100 million or more — a calculation BED disputes.

“People have talked about it in the past, but I don’t think the climate was right for this in the past and I think it is now,” said Wright, noting the city’s pension fund may be short by roughly \$50 million, and Burlington Telecom owes its payers \$17 million with no reasonable solution in sight.

Wright’s idea was roundly criticized by three of the four Democratic candidates for mayor and incumbent Progressive Mayor **ROB WOODWARD** isn’t ready to sign on to such a proposal — yet. But he didn’t completely dismiss the idea.

“The legacy of the Kite administration is that we have no choice but to consider highly unpleasant options,” Woodward said in an interview.

Wright, a sitting city councilor and state legislator, also expressed interest in selling off Burlington International Airport and Memorial Auditorium.

Why stop there?

Burlington taxpayers are sitting on a gold mine: Heck, gold miners. Besides, public ownership of parks, waterfronts, harbors and utilities is sooo 19th and 20th century.

Wright may be onto something. We need to think outside the box. Town.

The Community Boathouse: Perfect spot for a floating casino.

Mem Plant: Just the place for a giant fire-climbing wall... no, wait — a lawn with a giant ice-shattering wall in the centerpiece! Call it Cirque du Glace.

Parking garage: Right next to the ticket dispenser... slot machines?

Burlington Bike Path: Think self-road. These cyclists don’t build themselves people!

North Beach Beachfront condos and ...  
vacation?

The reversion of Wright’s proposal and the city’s financial troubles aside, the war over sale is in the Queen City are quite ready to provide yet another switchover of these assets.

**I DON'T THINK  
THE CLIMATE  
WAS RIGHT FOR  
THIS IN THE PAST  
AND I THINK IT IS NOW.**

KURT WRIGHT

### Keeping Up Appearances

Concerns over the cozy relationship between Gov. **PETER SHUMLIN** and Green Mountain Power has driven a wedge between two powerhouse pals: the governor and state Sen. **MARK STAMATOS** (D-Town/Canton).

As noted in last week’s Fair Game, Shumlin filed a last-minute petition asking the Public Service Board to appoint a special counsel to represent ratepayers, given the appearance of “conflict of interest” between GMP and Team Shumlin.

First, a GMP exec is working for Shumlin to help coordinate rebuilding efforts post-treble, and second, the head of Department of Public Service Commissioner **LEA MILLER** is a managing partner in the law firm that represents GMP in regulatory matters. Miller’s department is supposed to represent ratepayers and the public interest in utility cases argued before the PSB.

Shumlin apologetically **KAREN KELLY** and the governor is disappointed in Shumlin’s petition.

“Gov. Shumlin and Sen. Shumlin have

a long-time and close relationship,” Kelly told Fair Game. “The governor was appointed to learn that Sen. Shumlin had decided to spearhead an effort to unspun the majority of the administration no connection with the proposed merger.”

“That’s ridiculous. No one is questioning their competency or integrity,” Shumlin responded. “It’s a very simple concern that we believe there is an appearance of a conflict of interest.”

Commissioner Miller and Gov. Shumlin said they wished Shumlin had reached out to the administration with his concerns before going public with his petition.

Given what he did reach out,

Fair Game has learned that Shumlin was scheduled to meet with Shumlin, Miller, several other top Shumlin aides and Rep. **TOM GIBSON** (D-East Montpelier), who like Shumlin, has concerns about the ownership of Vermont Electric Power Company, the state’s electric transmission network, post-merger. The meeting was scheduled for 1 p.m. on Monday, October 27 — just hours before the deadline to file the intervention petition. Late Friday, the meeting was canceled.

Kudos to Shumlin! By Fair Game’s count it’s up to a scheduling conflict, but Allen said it had more to do with Shumlin’s involvement in the petition — a petition, if you recall, backed by two former DPS public advocates who served under Democratic governor **MARSHALL ISHAK**.

“Given Sen. Shumlin’s political past, we determined that his presence at a meeting would be counterproductive,” said Allen.

Or maybe they were hoping to run out the clock, given that the deadline to file the petition was less than five hours after the scheduled meeting with the gov?

If that was the intent, it backfired, claimed Gibbs. Fair Game is decided to file the petition after Tom Shumlin canceled the meeting.

“That very quickly tipped me toward moving ahead. I made the decision to file on Sunday 15th [Ed. Monday].” Shumlin told Fair Game. “Had we held the meeting, I think well may not have fled the petition. It’s hard to say.”

On Friday, just four days after Shumlin filed his petition, the Shumlin administration officially opposed Shumlin’s request.

Regarding for the Department of Public Service, public advocate **JONAH**

agents wrote: "There are no allegations made, nor is there factual support for a finding, that the concessioner's husband has a financial interest in any entity subject to supervision of the department (or board), or financially benefits from the outcome of any individual matter before the board, when that matter or any other regulatory matter is handled by other members of the line team."

That's not exactly how Eric Miller, concession Miller's husband, explained his role at the firm of Shockey Purling & Behn, which represents GMP.

"Although other lawyers in this firm do represent clients in regulatory proceedings, I am screened off of all of those matters and do not participate in them in any way," Eric Miller wrote in an email to Fair Game.

He added, "While I do derive some indirect economic benefit from the fees concerning matters on which I do no work, none of those fees are dependent in any way on the position taken by the Department of Public Service or its commissioners, or who the commissioners are."

In other words, the law firm gets paid whether Green Mountain Power wins or loses.

But, as Hines points out in his petition, he's not claiming that anyone is on the take. Rather, the "appearance" of a conflict of interest is enough to warrant a separate counsel, he argues.

We'll see if the Public Service Board agrees.

#### **Party Pooper**

The four Democratic lawmakers, or candidates for mayor of Burlington, squared off for the first time last week before a crowd of more than 100. One question asked at the debate — and on the minds of many Democrats — is whether the fusion candidate, state Sen. **Tom Ashe** (RyP-Chittenden), would unequivocally support the winner of the caucuses.

Ashe began the evening by saying he wouldn't apologize for his Progressive past, and then promised to do just that — reportedly he even defended himself against anonymous online comments, taking pains to note that he doesn't make Major Bob Ross breakfast, nor does he have autism. **One** **SANDRA** **on his Facebook**. He even riffed off his silences to prove it.

The other three Democrats — City Councilor **BRAD BRAVENEC**, state Rep. **JULIA LUMBER** and airport commissioner and housing developer **Mary Weisheit** — unequivocally said they'd support the

November 10 caucus winner.

Ashe helped.

"A compact trial candidate in this caucus should live up to it to support the nominee as long as there is a high-road campaign," said Ashe. A candidate who takes the "low road" shouldn't be guaranteed endorsements due to.

Given their middle-of-the-road campaign so far, I think Ashe and the other Ds should worry more about being run over by incoming traffic than each other.

(Ashe is the domestic partner of Seven Days publisher Freda Kooij. See disclosure on page 7)

#### **Lamont's Labor**

Gov. Peter Shumlin has brought new meaning to the term "bully pulpit" with his constant haranguing that roughly 30 untrained state employees drag a grievance against his administration for being refused extra pay for emergency work provided post-Irene.

For some labor-friendly Democrats, the governor's stance is unacceptable.

At a meeting last week, the Lamoille County Democratic Committee — home to House Speaker **MAP MINT** and Shumlin adviser **SHANNON MITCHELL** — unanimously approved a resolution asking the governor and others to "decide from scratch" of the efforts of working Vermonters" to file a grievance and seek adjudication from the Vermont Labor Relations Board. It also offered unequivocal support for the right of state workers to file a grievance in order to seek clarity about contract language.

The Vermont Democratic Party State Committee will be asked to pass an identical resolution at its November 5 meeting, said **REBECCA**, who chairs the Lamoille County committee.

"It probably doesn't have much of a chance to pass, because it's hard to criticize the governor when he's just going," said Burgess. "I feel a hole like [which Cassidy] I'm in the barn and I've got all the bolts, but I'm going to give it a shot anyway." 

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## OPINION

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# iPads for All: Public Schools in Northwestern Vermont Make Education Interactive

BY ANDY GROMAGE

**T**he students in Jennifer Sherratt's eighth-grade social studies class at Bellows Free Academy in Ripton are taking a vocabulary quiz. The lesson is the American Revolution, and the terms are economic ones such as "supply," "demand," "import" and "entrepreneur."

In some Vermont classrooms, the students would be scratching out answers on paper with pencils. The quizzes would go home with the teacher, and the kids would get their grades as a day or two.

But on a recent Monday morning, there isn't a pencil in sight. Instead, each student is taking the quiz on a brand-new iPad supplied by the school. Students are working in groups; their iPads synched to the teacher's, and each group's score is projected onto a screen in real time.

Sherratt calls it the "spice race," because each group is represented by a cartoon spiceman. The scores advance they get right, the faster the ship moves across the screen.

The exercise gives Sherratt an instant read on how well the class has understood the terminology as she can tailor her teaching accordingly and focus on the students who aren't getting it. Plus, the says, the kids love the game.

"I never would have thought a spiceman playing about a lesson would be so exciting for eighth graders," Sherratt remarks during a break in the session.

Bellows Free Academy Ripton, part of the Franklin Northwest Supervisory Union, is just one of several Vermont schools employing iPads in the classroom. The Vermont Department of Education's technology coordinator, Peter Drescher, says he doesn't know how many other schools are doing the same — and won't yet get results from a recent survey in December. But he's certain the number is growing.

At RFA, eighth-grade students bound to every seventh and eighth grade — and their teachers — at the start of this school year in nearby Fletcher, fifth and sixth graders got them, too.

The plan is to add a grade a year until all students in the district have their own iPads, says superintendent Ned Ranch. That means that next year, students will be able to earn the privilege of taking their iPads home.

"I love technology," says Ranch. "I see it in my own kids. Their whole world is a digital world. You walk into classrooms and it's the opposite. I want to change that."

RFA fourth-grade school principal Tam Walsh is equally jazzed about iPads and their power to get kids more



JENNIFER SHERRATT AND STUDENTS

engaged about learning in and outside the classroom.

Walsh also believes the iPad can level the socioeconomic playing field.

"It doesn't matter what kind of house you come from, everyone has the same access. Everyone has the same tasks," he says during a tour of the school. "So no, public schools are the last bastion of equity in education."

Not close to Sherratt's classroom, an eighth-grade language arts class is engaged in a fast learning process. One student is playing "Words With Friends," a crossword game similar to Scrabble. At a desk across, a young boy is engrossed in "Math Magz," a game whose objective is to defend a treehouse using math-related weapons.

Walsh asks the boy what he likes about the game. "You get to violently attack cats and dogs with division facts and exponents," the kid says with a perfectly straight face.

Franklin Northwest dropped a chunk of change buying the iPads — around \$125,000 for 210 tablets this year, or \$600

each — and spent another \$40,000 building a schoolwide Wi-Fi system. But the district didn't without raising taxes by lowering vacant properties' valuations and making other cuts here and there. Ranch says raising \$125,000 every year — in order to bring additional grades online — will be harder.

The district had been using Samsonic laptop computers to students, and will do so in lower grades, but there are distinct advantages to the iPad, including longer battery life and less time required to boot up and log on. RFA students' iPads come loaded with 90 apps, including email and an internet browser but not Facebook or Twitter.

Franklin Northwest might seem an unlikely place to find high-tech classrooms. So far towns such as Ripton have been early leaders in the adoption of the so-called "1-to-1" iPad initiative. Ripton, which is part of the Franklin Northwest Supervisory Union, was the first town in the state to issue iPads to every student in the high school — about 160 — as well as 60 students in elementary school. Even kindergartners in Ripton know how to access ABCs, which they use to learn the alphabet, says Robert Gerwin, director of technology for town schools.

Gerwin says the "engagement factor" of iPads has reduced "gagging" and other time-wasters in the classroom. He even credits the iPad for a 67 percent drop in disciplinary actions at the high school this year. It's worth mentioning: If a kid breaks a school-owned iPad through negligence, the student's parents have to pay for it.

"We had discussions with administrators who handle the discipline issues, and they think it's fair if it has to do with someone responsible for a \$500 device, and less of the 'knock the book out of the hands of the kid walking down the hall' kind of attitude," Gerwin says.

All five parents were thrilled about the idea — or the potential price tag — of equipping their middle schoolers with iPads. Angela Baker, who was "wholehearted" for her 13-year-old daughter, a seventh grader at Bellows Free Academy Ripton, where her mother describes as a "good student" to no one else than Gerwin's enthusiasm for school, has "no regrets" because of the iPad, her mother acknowledges. Still, she worries about her daughter's safety.

"I'm a stats person, so I know a lot of things that most parents don't know," Baker says. "While an iPad — while technology — can be wonderful, it can also give you a lot of trouble."

In the 200-miles-tween North Supervisory Union — serving the far-flung towns of Sutton, Lamoilleton, Croydon,





## Q&A: UVM Robotics

### Researcher Josh Bongard by Kim Picard

**H**ow and why did life on Earth evolve as it has? And why did it do it? Would creatures develop in the same ways, and with the same sort of structures, if we could replay evolution over and over again? And can humans create robots that not only evolve and learn, but eventually become sentient?

These are just a few of the heady questions that University of Vermont robotics researcher Josh Bongard wrestles with every day. Little wonder, then, that on October 14, Bongard was one of 58 winners of the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers, The White House honor come with a \$50,000 research grant. (And in case you're wondering, no, that's not Bongard's (un)shaven perk; only the award itself.)

This week, the 37-year-old Toronto native took a short break from his research in UVM's Morphology, Evolution and Computation Lab to talk about his work and the future of computational evolution. He'll be one of six speakers featured at the sold-out TEDxUVM event on Friday, October 28, at Fletcher Allen's Davis Auditorium. The talk will be live-streaming in the lobby lounge area of the Vermont Tech Box.

#### SEVEN DAYS: What's the nature of the robotic creatures you build?

**JOSH BONGARD:** Instead of making robots, what we build are virtual worlds where robots evolve. My interest in robotics has been conceptual. How did Mother Nature go about creating complex machines, which are animals and plants and can we borrow some of her ideas to do the same thing in machines? Like how some insect larvae beat their legs from within, can we teach robots to self-assemble to develop tools in a virtual world?

**SD:** You believe it's possible to build what Isaac Asimov once called the "positronic brain?"

**JB:** You never build something of human-level intelligence? I do believe we're possible. What we're more likely to see first in the coming decades are neural robots, simple robots that are doing really well operating on communication sites, things like that. I think we'll see ever more sophisticated robots for our homes for us. And, eventually something of human-level intelligence. But it'll be a long time coming.

(Read the full interview on blurt.)

Read more excerpt here: [http://bit.ly/1qPzJL](#)

Brownfield and Wiesenfeld — technology coordinator for Town Mays — is hoping to introduce these documents by next year.

Mays firmly believes that an understanding of technology is more important now than ever, but admits the demographics and lack of high-speed internet access in rural areas of the Northeast Kingdom present challenges to integrating technology into education. Some kids would take their laptop home to a fully wired household, while other would find the tablets all but useless the second they left school, Mays says.

"The students are digital natives. They are born with a digital world," says Mays. "The parents — some of them are on the cusp of being digital; some of them have absolutely no idea. They spend most

of their time cutting down trees in the middle of the woods."

Will schools actually improve learning? And how will schools measure that?

"That's the hard part," says Waisbrot. The Porter principal. He says that progress can be calculated through levels of student engagement, grades and state testing benchmarks.

Giving kids attention with ready-made software is the easy part, but for it to work, teaching has to change, too.

"If we just put going to have kids sitting in rows, the teacher lecturing, that's not worth it," Kirsch says. "What if we have kids answering real-world problems, making relevant what they do in class, having it project based, that's when they become part of what you're doing."



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# A New Law Sponsored by Sen. Leahy Targets "Patent Trolls"

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

**T**echnological innovation in Vermont and other states are under attack from nefarious firms known as "patent trolls." These entities don't actually invent anything, instead, they're often just pools of lawyers who buy up patents—oftentimes—the broader the better—and then threaten to sue their peers for infringement.

"It's legal extortion," declares Jerry Tarrant, chief financial officer of MyWebGrocer. "It's a huge logistic effort that's killing jobs and stifling innovation."

Tommy Williams, based provider of digital services to retail grocers has been hit by the troll syndicates that claim the company has violated patents held by MyWebGrocer. He's had to lay off \$40,000 in local firms in his neck of the woods.

"I got off cheap," Tarrant says. His investments in defense have apparently persuaded three sets of trolls to back off. Two of them have had to focus their full attention on countermeasures launched by tech titans Google and Microsoft, Tarrant notes. The fourth proudly "scratches its head" and becomes concerned that it had no grounds for charging MyWebGrocer with patent infringement, Tarrant adds.

The trolls look on during a fight's "final phase," explains Steve Kamm, a Burlington attorney with Dowsen, Kamm & Morris who specializes in intellectual property law. That's the dollar amount that a company is willing to pay as its out-of-court settlement in order to avoid the greater expense of litigating up to a full-scale federal trial. Tarrant reckons that a patent troll might want a \$200,000 payout to go away, which would be about half of what a mark might have to spend in court.

Trolls often aren't blushing about taking a company like MyWebGrocer to court. They know they can find a favorable venue for their lawsuits in the federal court system's eastern district of Texas, where juries are "either at great huge damage awards" or parties claiming patent infringement, Kamm notes.

Patents typically are not well suited to the intricacies of patent law and may conclude that a claim doesn't have merit even when it covers an everyday process, such as internet shopping. Plenty of patentees have indeed been issued for inventions that are actually not unique and may have been devised by hundreds of different developers notes Alan Gold, founder of Green Mountain Innovations, a patent advocacy service. He offers the hypothetical example of "a guy who sells wood pellets out of his barn in Morrisville." A troll who holds a patent on wood pellet production might then threaten the Biomaville dealer with a lawsuit.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office did issue a large number of internet-related and software patents in the late 1990s that were probably not justified, Gold says. To many outsiders, the federal agency appears overwhelmed and ill

managed to rigorously review the 800,000 patent applications it receives annually. It would cost many billions of dollars to minor close examination of every claim. Plus, there's no adversarial defense as in the patent granting process. The only party represented is the proceedings in the legal team that's filed an application on behalf of an inventor.

MyWebGrocer, of course, essential forms of protection for intellectual property. Without these, small-scale inventors would be systematically ripped off by tech conglomerates—which is exactly what trolls often say.

They're pushing against, Sen. Patrick Leahy has led a long-running effort to improve the quality of patents issued by the federal agency and thus protect the rights of legitimate inventors. Leahy's legislation finally became law last month, with President Obama signing the first comprehensive reform of the patent system in 80 years.

The America Invents Act "will make it more difficult for patent trolls to live off the software industry and others," Leahy said in a statement. "This will inspire every sector of our economy, in Vermont and across the country."

But Vermont attorneys who defend



## IT'S A HUGE INJUSTICE THAT'S KILLING JOBS AND STIFLING INNOVATION.

JERRY TARRANT, MYWEBGROCER

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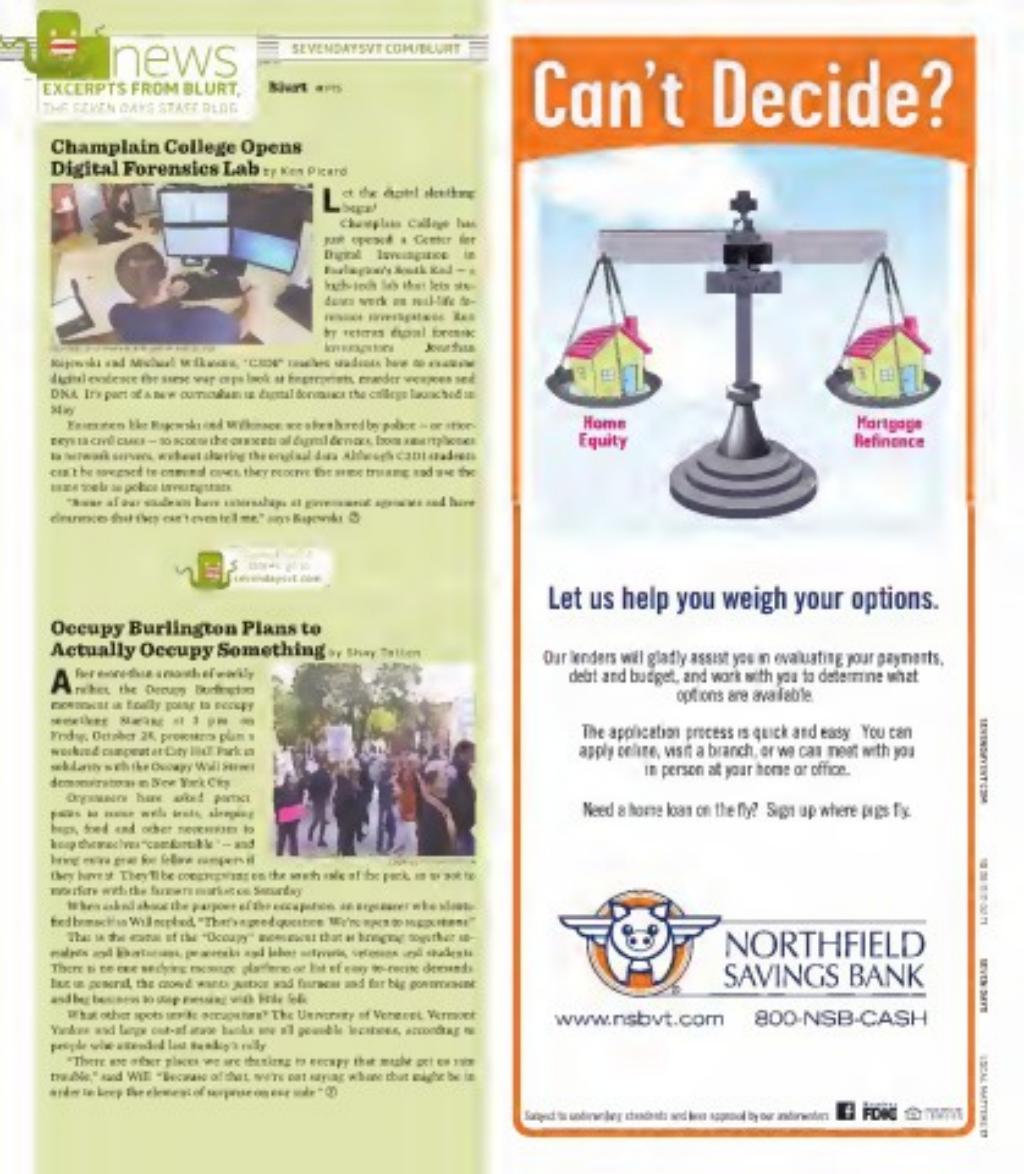
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## Champlain College Opens Digital Forensics Lab

by Ken Picard



Let the digital sleuthing begin!

Champlain College has just opened a Center for Digital Investigation in Burlington's South End — a high-tech lab that lets students work on real-life forensic investigations. Run by former digital forensic investigators, Jonathan Majewski and Michael Wilkerson, "CDI" teaches students how to examine digital evidence the same way cops look at fingerprints, murder weapons and DNA. It's part of a new curriculum in digital forensics the college launched in May.

Investigators like Majewski and Wilkerson are often hired by police — or others in civil cases — to scour the contents of digital devices, from smartphones to network servers, without sharing the original data. Although CDI students can't be assigned to criminal cases, they receive the same training and use the same tools as police investigators.

"None of our students have internships at government agencies and have experiences that they can't even tell me," says Majewski. ☐



## Occupy Burlington Plans to Actually Occupy Something

by Sharyn Tishman

After more than a month of weekly rallies, the Occupy Burlington movement is finally going to occupy something. Starting at 3 p.m. on Friday, October 28, protesters plan a weekend campout at City Hall Park in solidarity with the Occupy Wall Street demonstrators in New York City.

Organizers have asked participants to come with tents, sleeping bags, food and other necessities to keep themselves "comfortable" — and bring extra gear for fellow campers if they have it. They'll be converging on the south side of the park, or as not to interfere with the farmers market on Sunday.

When asked about the purpose of the occupation, an organizer who identified himself as Will replied, "That's a good question. We're open to suggestions."

This is the status of the "Occupy" movement that is bringing together radicals and libertarians, pacifists and later activists, veterans and students. There is no one统一 message, platform or list of key to-revive demands. But in general, the crowd wants justice and fairness, and for big government and big business to stop messing with little folks.

What other spots might be occupied? The University of Vermont, Vermont Yankee and large out-of-state banks are all possible locations, according to people who attended last Sunday's rally.

"There are other places we are thinking to occupy that might get us into trouble," said Will. "Because of that, we're not saying where that might be in order to keep the element of surprise on our side." ☐



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# STATE of THE arts

## Blood Countess Opera Premieres, 24 Years in the Making

BY ALICE LEWITT

**B**ACK IN 1987, HENRIK IBSEN'S RARE first told his father, Zoltan, that he was planning to write an opera about another Ibsen play, the legendary Hungarian "blood countess," Zoltán and his brother had long whispered about the possibility that their family was descended from Kreuzer, who was widely known as the female equivalent of Romany's Vlad Tepes, the inspiration for Dracula. We first imagined it as a castle in 1614, in the then-advanc'd age of 54. Kreuzer had been accused of拐拐 and murdering hundreds of young women, then boiling them to blood to preserve her own youth.

"That's one of the things that intrigued me," says Ibsen-Kreuzer, who lives in Northfield. He speaks quickly and with an emphatic smile that nicely suits. "It was one of those things I talked about in very

shadowy kind of talk." There was little proof of Kreuzer's alleged crimes, but her interest in language and Semitic, and her successful defense of Hungary against the Ottoman invasions, are well documented.

The Norwegian composer's work, *Ereshet*, A. Mendesvold, finally premiered this week in Hyde Park, Northfield, and Burlington.



HENRIK IBSEN-KREUZER

Besides of research, including visits to Győr Castle in present-day Slovakia, where the countess died, informs the libretto, which

Ibsen-Kreuzer completed in 2000. What took him so long? Oh, just translating out more than 1,000 other musical compensations, many articles and a book called *Countess Zoltán of Hercegovina*. After researching and

outlining two previous versions of his opera, Ibsen-Kreuzer allowed himself only two months to write the score in the summer of 2010. "You're very fast," he explains, "but he proved when he wrote 100 commission-based pieces in 2007 for his 'We Are All Mozart' project."

However, he did let some speed bumps while composing. *Ereshet* crosses a fence, one who supposed to finish work on Ibsen-Kreuzer's house before he started writing the opera, continued well past the original deadline. "They were going over," he says. "My studio is upstairs and stuff is falling down on me, so I'm trying to compose this thing. I just turned the furniture out."

Anne Decker conducted the **VERMONT CONTEMPORARY MUSIC ENSEMBLE**'s first reading of the work last week at **THE GREENSBURG MUSIC CENTER** in Colchester. Screening

## MUSIC

## Plattsburgh Celluloid Enthusiast Promises Truly Weird Halloween Program

BY MARGOT HARRISON

**A** NEW MACBODGALL loves 16-millimeter film — the kind that come on "bulky reels" and used to be shrunk through projectors in 1978, when he was in high school, the Plattsburgh, N.Y., native collected old newspapers to raise money to run movies. He showed them for his fellow students after hours on school projection.

In the ensuing decades, movies got lighter, cheaper, more accessible — they became copies, dubs and finally pin strips of measurable data. But no MacBodgall, now 46, "survived" are still film rock, the eclectic, in-a-movie's-pride, screeners them — these days, at Plattsburgh's North Country Food Co-op — and advocate for them.

For the past 20 years, MacBodgall and



Andy MacBodgall (left) prepares with friends for his annual Fall Preview festival.

a shifting cast of cohorts have held their film series *Illustrated Son of Mystery Science Theater 3000* (IMAGINE THIS). The name is in allusion to the geek comic cable TV show where comedians offered, without naming commentary on grade-Z flicks via puppets.

Now, MacBodgall says, he's reuniting his group of off-Millennium Shriners to reflect the serious side of its mission: giving local a chance to watch movies the old-fashioned way in a communal analog experience. "We're trying to create this throwback to the old days of what moviegoing was all about," MacBodgall says.

The group's Halloween-themed event on October 26, "Year of the Ax," will offer folder for ridicule but who presents film appreciation. MacBodgall will enter the night with *Don't Be Afraid of the Dark*, the 1973 cult horror film that inspired Guillermo del Toro's recent remake. "We don't really want people showing up to

laugh at that movie," says MacBodgall — who, at one memorable screening of Hitchcock's *The Birds*, presented to the "guys" (actually strayed) at a nearby who-did-meet.

Laughter will be welcome in the middle of the program, however, when MacBodgall and his crew two shorts shall be shown, serving from site searching for stranger than their creators intended. He

transformed a low-budget apocalyptic feature into "End of the World: The Special Addendum" and added satirical title cards to refund footage of a woman speaking a tongue to "transit" her gibberish. Finally, MacBodgall will mark his book on a new project gene splicing no

WE'RE TRYING TO CREATE THIS THROWBACK TO THE OLD DAYS OF WHAT MOVIEGOING WAS ALL ABOUT.

ANDY MACBODGALL

vintage trailers for *The Twinkie Infestation* and *The Juicier View* into a single commentary on 9/11 conspiracy theories.

MacBodgall doesn't undertake these transformations with editing or animation software. Instead, he physically manipulates "frame bias of film" into what he calls "collages of projected clip art." To produce that effect, he'll hold above screen, he says, the audience side of the print, for "special effects," he imposes the excitation to fluorescent light.

## FILM

desire and an assimilative dreamlike state through the lush, folky Hungarian melody that opens the opus.

In 1999 soprano LELA JAHNSEN convinced Anthony Rizzo to compose his piece as a monodrama. Under the direction of ANDREW HARRIS, the singer performs the entire 25-minute, non-narrative piece alone on stage, describing visits with Adrienne Kopler, her children and ultimately the murder of a nightwoman that doomed her to unrequited love.

The eight-piece arrangement includes a duologue, an intense kinspirational monologue similar to a haiku poem, and music, which Anthony-Rizzo says is key to making the opera's time and place. Undeniably Yasmine is something of a cabaret wonderland, so Anthony-Rizzo built his own digitally by miming out cabaret sounds onto a keyboard.

It won't change, and neither will the musicians, lighting, costumes and sets, the combined cost of which added up to about \$90,000 per performance. A year and a half ago Anthony-Rizzo tried his first Kickstarter campaign, then another

but neither was successful. He ultimately settled on the open-source website, but as of last week, was still more than \$40,000 short. Anthony-Rizzo now has 140 sponsors in 23 countries. Very few are Vermonters. "You're better known elsewhere," he says with a shrug.

Immediately following that weekend's premiere in Vermont, Anthony-Rizzo will begin raising money for a performance already approved by the town council in Čachtice, Slovakia, home of Castle Castle. If the early performances of *Yasmine* are successful, Anthony-Rizzo hopes to one day convert it into a fully populated, three-act opera. With any luck, the next act won't need to be sing-along. □

**I** Elizabeth A. Mazzola/Rolling Stone  
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MacDougall's group currently has four core members, but many other film enthusiasts have come and gone over the years, he says. They helped MacDougall write gags for *DRINKMASTER* screenings; he did

MacDougall's group currently has four core members, but many other film enthusiasts have come and gone over the years, he says. They helped MacDougall write gags for *DRINKMASTER* screenings; he did

**G**reater Burlington has no officially-located fan society, but it does have one upcoming doozy of a *Halloween*-themed screening. **BURLINGTON PSYCHOTRONIC RESEARCH** (formerly of Montpelier) is presenting *House (House)* at "Investigating H.O.T." The 1977 Japanese horror film written and directed by Nobuhiko Obayashi with inspiration from his prettier daughter's nightmares, is need viewing in its own way (three words: psychotropic, tattered). A cash bar, free popcorn and costumes should enhance the experience.

**W**IP On Halloween Burlington's GREEN PHILL will release his latest horror short on YouTube. "Night of the Vamp" purports to be found footage from the cameras of two bikers who meet a rusty fate in the woods near Burlington, but not before capturing evidence of...well, we'll find out. Mulligan's short "Midnight Risks" got exposure last spring on *Air1* (Fox News' Alfred "Vamp" for about \$400) in "very remote and rugged terrain," he says. Check it out at [youtube.com/user/awipdude](http://youtube.com/user/awipdude).

the shadow in the now-defunct Bureau Higher Education Program — passed on at the Clinton Convention Facility in Burlington, where MacDougall claims "were pretty wacky writers."

MacDougall had a parallel career at the Flemish Free Republic, where he received income from 1985 to 1989. Now, sans 25-plus-line gather in the food on-site upstairs lounge to appearance his dreams again. Though high school and college students have participated over the years, today's kids are "hard sells" when it comes to roadside, says MacDougall.

As for the once-living kid who became a preservationist, his affection for the house diminished, though MacDougall has had two homes open to dooms dedicated to parts of healing those previous and shaping castles full of fun around it, he says.

He has no plans to go the digital route, though "I'm really interested, another place" says MacDougall. "Through the film series, I'm trying to hold on to the little bit of that that remains." □

**I** Free at Three Bills, Saturday October 26 at 7 p.m., at the North Country Food Coop, 25 Ridge Street, Poughkeepsie, NY. Free with service, BYOP movies.

**H**ouse (House) presented by Burlington Psychotronic Research, Thursday October 27 at 8 p.m.; 7:30 p.m. (wheelchair 8:30 p.m.) at House of Mystery, 30 West Court Street, Williston St., Winooski. Capacity is limited. [burlingtonpsychotronic.com](http://burlingtonpsychotronic.com) for advance tickets.



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## STATE *of* THE arts

## CORLISS BLAKELY TAKES HER PAINTING TO A NEW LEVEL—ON THE IPAD

BY MICHAEL JAMES

**F**or 26 years Connie Blakely painted strictly at watercolor. Then one day in 1980 she recalls "I woke up and said 'I'm going to acrylics' and I never looked back." The 60-year-old artist, who spends

time each year at St. Albans and on Butter Island, Vt., and in Nicaragua is prone to shifts in medium. Last year when Apple debuted the first iPod, Statley was quick to buy one. She has been so engrossed with her iPod though enough to know,

At first glance what she's doing looks just like "painting" on the chunky old Microsoft Paint programs from the 1990s. But as she works—

Gilkey's (Pad-)painting technique is the focus of the North Hess House Inn & Restaurants upcoming Art Studio Weekend. On Friday she'll hook her tablet up to a big screen on

ART

**i**-Art Studio Weekend at the North Hero House Inn & Restaurant three-course dinner with i-Past painting demonstration by Corinne Blakely Friday October 28 at 7 pm \$42 per person. i-Past art class taught by Blakely on Saturday October 29 9 a.m. to noon \$25 Info 332-4752 northherouse.com

The dining room and parlor, still life while smokers indulge in a three-course dinner. The next morning shall lead *Pad* owners on a three-hour field tour of the area.

The event is close to owner Walt Glensberg's heart. He grew up with Blakely. Well, he was raised in New Jersey but his family had a vacation home on Butler Island, where Blakely also spent summers. When he left a job on Wall Street to buy and renovate the fourth-Heads Inn in 2002, he reconstructed some

Stoker — and bought several of her prints. "She designed the dining room around her paintings." Blumberg says. "I wanted it to feel a little like an art gallery."

It certainly feels airy on a recent afternoon. Masburg has set out an art-opening-worthy cheese plate from which Shelly nimbly nicks while setting up her iPad as a small easel. She arranges white orange- and green goat on the white tablecloth and begins to create.

At first glance what she's doing looks just like "painting" on the clunkily old Microsoft Paint programs from the 1990s. But as she works—quickly—the gauzy, subtle textures begin to emerge. Staley uses a small stylus as a brush. Some iPad artists use their fingers; she notes that because I'm a painter I like something in my hand.

Her favorite still works — which she prints as giclees on canvas with a large format archival printer — look strikingly similar to her oil paintings. Her work is inspired by a childhood spent on her family's Florida farm and like her mother's antique shop: a yellow peacock on a marble surface, several jars of pickles arranged on a chipped white cupboard, a red pepper cut in half and floating in space.

Blaikley uses two apps, Practicote and ArtStudio, and wrote the manual for the latter after simple suggestions developed with one of the paintings she made with it.

Painting on an iPad has some major advantages over traditional painting. For one, it's cheaper. Blakely paid \$40.99 for her iPad; the apps were \$4.99 and .99 cents. She could spend that much on oil paints for a single painting, she says.

Bilkey loves that she can change the size and opacity of her brush with the touch of a button. She can zoom in to perfect minuscule details. And painting is quicker too. While an oil might take three weeks an iPad work is done in three hours. The only drawback, says Bilkey, is that the screen is difficult to see outdoors. That's why she sticks to still life.

"Every once in a while I do miss running color," Blakely concedes. But the best part of working on the P&G ad she offers is this: "If you don't like something, you just hit the back button."

A black and white photograph of a woman with dark hair, wearing a sequined, off-the-shoulder dress. She is blowing several bubbles from her mouth, which are captured in mid-air. The background is dark and out of focus.

# WHISKEY TANGO FOXTROT

We just had to ask...

## Just what is augmented reality?

BY KEN PICARD

"I admit it. I'm an unabashed sci-fi fan. Whenever my wife and daughter go to bed early I pore through the science-fiction novels on Netflix, searching for classic gems such as *Marsian Report*, *RoboCop*, *Avatar* or *Terminator* to satisfy my inner geek."

What do these films have in common, other than the fact they're well-made? Both with me and them! Each of them offers a peek into a technology that has already evolved from fiction to fact: augmented reality, or AR. Attitudes at this week's Vermont Tech Days Friday and Saturday in the former Border Bookstore on Church Street, will go to see a live demonstration, in the form of a virtual sculpture entitled *In Champaign College*.

So, what is augmented reality? Simply put, it's a method of layering digital information and visual images, such as logos, websites and three-dimensional images, on top of the real world. Using the camera, compass gyroscope and Global Positioning System found in smartphones and e-readers, an augmented-reality application can locate embedded objects, or point a user



An augmented reality sculptor.

to the nearest coffeehouse, movie theater, bookstore or subway station. Once you grasp the basic concept of how AR works, it's easy to imagine all the possibilities of future applications.

Many of these futuristic apps already exist and are seriously downloadable. For example, are you the kind of driver who chronically forgets where you parked? The Augmented Car Finder app records exactly where you leave your car then leads you back to it later. (If you've lost your car keys, you're on your own.)

Do you ever wake up at the right night and wonder, "What is that cloudy mass of stars?" An app called StarWalk allows the user to aim an iPad or iPhone at the sky and instantly specific constellations, planets and stars.

Other augmented-reality apps can close you the precise distance to the next golf hole, the elevation of a distant mountain, or the first you'll get a guitar catalog or Masonic temple web hub.

Gabriel "Colby" Roosevelt, who, both a student and adjunct professor at Champlain College, is currently using that last app, called Laser. He's working with fellow Champlain instructor Kim Howell and Clark Thompson, curator of the RGA Center in Burlington, to create 3-D AR

sculptures around the Queen City. (Download the Laser app and you can see the fighter planes Roosevelt has "positioned" in Burlington Park.)

Roosevelt, 41, an ardent world traveler by training who now teaches 3-D computer design, when he said his cohorts found about this year's Tech Days, they thought it would be cool to create an installation that's virtual yet lifelike in its artistic potential.

"When inspired we are free-flowers of public sculpture," Roosevelt explains. "Could you have a whole show around you that's invisible unless you have direct access to it?"

But the appeal of AR is that a designer can create a 3-D model in virtual space that a viewer can walk around, view from different angles and then click on to obtain more information.

For example, Roosevelt suggests that the architect who eventually designs the proposed Target store in Williston could potentially create a 3-D architectural rendering of the building's completed design that could be viewed at its proposed location. Anyone with a smartphone or e-reader could click that wall around, and even inside, the store before a single shovel breaks ground. The potential for developing virtual review boards — and environmental activists — is immense.

Another possible application, Roosevelt says, is to create laps of history around a city. For example, his imagination, one day, envisions visiting Burlington may be able to point their smartphone at a building on Church Street and instantly call up details of what once stood in that spot, or see an overlaid photo of the building taken 100 years ago. That "virtual Coach House" would allow visitors to interact with the architecture and gather historic or archaeological details about their surroundings.

"We're hoping from the Tech Days that, by showing people a few simple applications of the technology and letting them would do so with that, people will suggest other ideas," Roosevelt says.

In the not-too-distant future, an AR facial-recognition app may be used by first-responders emergency personnel to, say, pull up the electronic medical records of an unconscious patient. The Burlington app may be similar app to check the rap sheet of a suspect coming.

To date, much of the AR in Burlington has been earning and mostly involving advancements for local restaurants and stores. And there are plenty of whiz-bang uses for it. Roosevelt recently finding one app that uses face-recognition software to open human faces, and then take a quick snap on them.

"There's no real life-changing value to it," he admits, "but it was pretty awesome looking." □

**E**ven the augmented-reality sculpture installations by visiting Vermont Tech Days and Saturday October 29 and 30 at the Border Bookstore, 29 Church St. in Burlington, are designed to be interactive. Visitors will be invited to touch the 3-D interactive "Tours made of stone" at the Champlain College Metal Casting Media booth.

■ [www.vttechdays.com](http://www.vttechdays.com) for more details about attending Vermont Tech Days sharing questions.

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**Dear Gail,**  
 Zombies have so many disturbing traits, but my question involves only two: the stench of their decomposition, and their tendency to congregate in large numbers. A single dead body gives off a foul odor that is almost overwhelming, certainly enough to make a normal person vomit. If they were these undead, how say you? One of these zombie-apocalypse survivors, barricading yourself inside a chopping mall faced with dozens if not hundreds of undead shoppers. Putting aside the brain eating and all that, how dangerous is the combined smell of all those embalmed corpses? I assume they're given off methane or ammonia or some other residual gas. Would the eggregious stench of hundreds of walking dead make your mall sanctuary uninhabitable even if you managed to keep from biting bitten?

Alex, White Post, Virginia

**M**uch Thatit would have said yes. Shopping mall zombies don't figure much in the Twinkie oeuvre. However, a dimly compassed scenario may be found at the end of *A Convenient Fancy in King Arthur's Court* (1880), in which the protagonist, Hawk and a small group of miscreants are dysentery, electrocution, drowning and Go-fight-gone to slaughter the mixed chivalry of England - 30,000 knights. Surrounding by

corpses, the visitors soon realize they have no reason to celebrate. "We were in a trap, of our own making. If we stayed where we were, our dead would kill us. Two would be made sick by the poisonous air bred by these dead zombies." Hawk continues, the wizened Merlin, showing up ghost-like. "We were conquerors, you can guess! He then bladders into his wire and is off to kill."

Even so, the more so because it was accomplished without compromised special effects. But, like the double feature, in terms not just of the story but the idea that cadavers emit toxic fumes decomposing bodies are definitely stinky, but the toxic part is myth.

Belief in zombies, as the alleged emanations of the dead were known, dates back in the ancient Greeks. The 1797 edition of the *Gynecopedia Britannica* soberly reported that the "putrid effluvia of dead bodies" was responsible for illness and death in the same way that marsh gas was. One man was reported to have suffered a "violent inflammation" of the chest after merely leaving over a rotting body. Today nobody talks about zombies, but the underlying fear persists, surfacing frequently after natural disasters, when the authorities quickly bury the dead in mass graves to prevent the spread of disease.

Such measures are pointless. However, funky smelling, dead bodies aren't especially dangerous, unless made those that are trying to eat your flesh. Precautions may be in order when the cause of death is an infectious disease (Cholera, AIDS is said to be especially problematic). But for the most part toxic pathogens are waterborne, not airborne. True, some germs can be spread by aerosol droplets, but these are excreted only by the living. The dead have stopped breathing, and one assumes the undead have, too.

A dead body gives off a variety of gases in its decay. Two of them, a pair named carbon dioxide and propane, are primarily responsible for "dead body smell," and are predominately during the heat and putrefaction phase of decomposition. The two chemicals are

toxic, but only in large amounts. A 200-pound individual could ingest more than a quarter-pound of either without getting a fatal dose.

Other gases given off by decaying bodies, such as carbon dioxide, methane and hydrogen sulfide, can also be dangerous, particularly if encased in a confined space. The first two can suffocate you, and the third is explosive — every so often there are stories of sewer workers being killed by a buildup of hydrogen sulfide in the pipes. Conversely, therefore, if you were locked up for an extended period with a record of rotting zombies, the fumes might accumulate to a perilous degree. I will say personally, however, that I'd want to stay away, the dangers of hydrogen sulfide poisoning would not be apparent to my mind.

Still, while the stench of zombies probably won't kill you, it may gross you out of existence. If you're somewhere that makes you reasonably want to shew up, that to me is a good working definition of an uninhabitable environment.

A couple caveats, though. First, while awaiting methods to an entire new state of decomposition, which is the case of pink rot, we don't know for certain that's the case, and since zombies are conspiracy wonks can find out. Second, as method students know, you can get used to just about anything. A dab of Vick's VapoRub under the nostrils may dampen the scent of zombies, if there is one. Or you could just be a masochist and suck it up.



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# Occupy Wall Street Is Feminist

The closest ancestor of Occupy Wall Street was the Greenham Common Women's Peace Camp in Berkshire, England. The encampment started in 1981, after some Welsh feminists called Women for Life on Earth marched from Cardiff to the RAF military base in Berks, taking to defend the ring of 46 UK-based nuclear missile sites. Indeed, the women packed their tents outside the fence. They were told to take their tents down. They slept under tarps or in the open. Over the years, thousands camped out, with many in 2010 showing up to link hands and encircle — or, as they put it, "embrace" — the base.

Journalists arrived from everywhere. Other camps sprung up across Europe. The women conducted thousands of acts of nonviolent civil disobedience to slow the war machine. They were repeatedly evicted and arrested. But they stayed — for 10 years, until the bases left, and like years more, until a movement to their struggle was created.

Forget comparisons to the '60s. What the current Occupy movement is emphatically not like is the old (pre-feminist, male) New Left. The Occupy Wall Street encampment at New York's Zuccotti Park (renamed Liberty Square) is a feminist phenomenon in both deep and quotidian ways — not just in the clarity of women's protest but in its group process, emotional ethos, aesthetic feel and emotional tenor.

No one, and everyone, leads. "People ask all the time, like, who are the leaders? Well, none of us are leaders. And we're not leaders. Exactly the same," says a woman at the beginning of a Meemeetina video about consensus at Liberty Square.

Early second-wave Feminists rejected hierarchy, me Having walked away from the meetings where she (and I was always there) who talked the loudest and longest held the floor, 1970s Feminists felt that had to be a more effective, and fun, way of working together. The way was leadershipless. According to some University of Amsterdam psychologists, that intuition was right. Their study found that narcissists tend to rise in organizations, largely because other people think their qualities — confidence, dominance, authority and self-esteem — make them good leaders. In fact, the narcissist's preoccupation with

him or her own brilliance stifles good decision making; it impedes the free and creative exchange of information and ideas.

In OWS, being long winded doesn't get you anywhere. Instead, the crowd gets its turn to say, "Thanks, we get it. Wrap it up." That gesture is part of a clever sign lesson that lets everyone be heard without everyone having to speak. If you do speak, you can dominate the discussion. You raise your hand, are put "on track," and wait your turn. And the human race repeats every speaker's words, noting or quiet so as to protest: "We amplify each other's voice."

It's not that no one ever takes leadership; it's that anyone can, at any time — and in any way, on doubt informed by gender, class and origin. That many ways

of power of all — and despite constant, shoulder-to-shoulder traffic, the chrysalis-spiraling sprightly.

The movement is nonpartisan. The Greenham women did not align with either side in the nuclear arms race. Similarly, the Occupy movement refuses to side with any political party. These commitments reinforce the movement's integrity and garage-wide respect.

The motto we also the ends: "You make the road by walking," wrote the Spanish poet Antonio Machado. The principle that guides direct democracy — not only a feminist process but also an anarchist one — would seem self-evident: You cannot create a just, peaceful, egalitarian society through coercion, violence or oppression.

This isn't a matter only of doing poli-

the commercialization of everything, including death. And politics — political power and political organization. For 30 years, Americans have been purchasing the solutions to their problems. This has diminished not just the creativity of solutions but the perception of the problems themselves. If there's no app for it, it doesn't exist.

At Zuccotti, there is nothing to buy — no tickets, no buttons, no signs. The 99 Percenters are creating their movement from scratch.

The complaints are many and the vision vague. Noting that the criticisms of OWS — too many crazy anarchists, no strategy — were also heard at the women's movement, longtime activist and writer Medea Benjamin posted on her eponymous blog the leaflet for the 2010 Boston International Women's Day march. The leaflet demanded a radical overhaul of everything — from a guaranteed living wage to children's rights to abortion on demand. It was so long, wrote Taki, it had to be printed on legal-size paper.

The occupiers' grievances range from illegitimate mortgage foreclosures to "private contracts to murder prisoners." These are formerly non demands. That is as it should be, Jennifer Schell wrote in the Nation last week. "It's not just a new set of policy ideas that will bring back — the world was already overwhelmed with these, unacted upon — but a new spirit, a spirit of action, without which all the demands in the world are dead letters."

In 1970, the Greenham women won. The missiles were sent back to the U.S. under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty. Signed in 1979 by the U.S. and USSR, the treaty began by affirming the peace camp's position: "Conscious that nuclear weapons would have devastating consequences for all mankind..."

Of course, the peace camp didn't stop the war machine. The canaries are still rolling. Most of the 2010 Boston women's demands haven't been met. But feminism changed the world — including Liberty Square. If Occupy joins a posse into the workshop of a humanity-devastating madrone note, it will change the world again. ☺

## FORGET COMPARISONS TO THE '60S. WHAT THIS OCCUPY MOVEMENT IS EMPHATICALLY NOT LIKE IS THE OLD (PREFEMINIST, MALE) NEW LEFT.

can. Scrubbed together  
was a discovery of the early lib-  
eration movements.

The presence is consistent. Every time those Berkshires cranes moved left the base, either for exercise or to go to strategic locations during times of "international tension," the peace camp dugged the trench. They painted peace signs on the truck windshields or hopped aboard, one woman disabled a vehicle by shoving a potato in an exhaust pipe. Every time, the demonstrators were arrested.

Some Wall Street occupiers are looking for confrontation, and they get it, that they see it, and the police instigate most of the hard hushing in response to non-violent, if sometimes illegal, actions.

The second strand of the Official Occupy Wall Street Good Neighbor Policy is "zero tolerance for violence or verbal abuse toward anyone." The third is "zero tolerance for abuse of personal or public property." Signs ask people to respect the flowers. — the park is a public space for the

nice life—one of daily life. The Greenham women lived on the Earth they wanted to save. Living without hot water, electricity or telephones reminded them hourly of the urgency of their cause.

Life in Liberty Square is name, yes still, the bittersy is acting huge. The food is healthy, exuberant and free to all. The right-wing website Newsone lauded that while other Americans are subsisting on Hamburger Helper, the occupiers are being fed gourmet meals by celebrity chef True. So are the homeless participants.

Like Greenham, OWS is a crazy splint



# Solar Flair

Fast-growing Draker Laboratories makes the most of its moment in the sun

BY ANDY BRIGHAM



Pineburgh Solar Farm

In a field in southern New Jersey, one of the nation's largest solar farms is turning sunlight into clean energy with the help of high-tech instruments made in Vermont. The 100-acre solar array in Pinegrow Township uses a data management system made by Burlington-based Draker Laboratories to track the array's power output, weather conditions and technical problems in real time.

Solar power was the fastest-growing industry in America in 2010, and Draker Labs has been playing a vital role on the "solar-cast side," as moderns have dubbed it. Company revenues are on track to grow 280 percent this year, and Draker has been on a hiring spree to meet the demand for its products. The company started the year with 12 employees and expects to end it with more than 80. It averages its solar-powered offices in Burlington, a Old North End studio and April moved insurance operations, the former location of Draker.com in the Miller Building.

All its new office — a bright, pastel-and-beige space with horizontal floors and exposed brick walls — Draker instruments what it calls "weather" monitoring systems for large commercial or utility-scale solar photovoltaic systems. CEO Charles "Chuck" Carter explains these as sensors and microcomputers that collect data about a solar system — amount of sunlight captured, ambient air temperature, kilowatts produced — so operators can tell whether it is performing properly and troubleshoot any problems that arise.

This information becomes increasingly important as solar power systems get bigger and their owners put more money on the line. For instance, the developers of the New Jersey solar farm

Trade Power Funds, and Cen Edison Development have sunk \$50 million into the project. With that much money at stake, Carter says the developers want assurance that their investment is paying off.

Previously held Draker systems to have the right predictor at the right time. But it has required smart human moves, hard work and tremendous effort on their part" to get there, notes Jeff Wolfe,

CEO of the White River Junction solar panel company Goodolar. Employing

a different metaphor to describe solar industry needs, Wolfe observes: "Bring me certainly helps get you the opportunity, but you have to now really cashify."

Since its founding in 1994, Draker Labs has installed monitoring systems at 500 solar projects in the U.S. and Canada, including ones in a vineyard in Sonoma County, Calif., on a Nevada gold mine and on the rooftops of seven 800-unit residential towers. When the 20-megawatt New Jersey solar farm — the largest in the northeastern United States — went online last month, Draker was already knee-deep in an even bigger project: a 30-megawatt solar array in Ontario.

Draker's success is also enabling solar projects in Vermont. The company partnered with preclarus to build the 100-kilowatt rooftop array at the Green

Mountain Coffee Roasters headquarters in Weyburn. An information kiosk in the building and a corresponding website display exactly what the Draker system is detecting. On an overcast, 57-degree day last week, the system was generating 76kW hours of power, enough to offset up to 20 percent of the plant's energy needs.

More recently, Draker joined Burlington-based Renewable Grid Energy to hold what at the time was the largest solar array in northern New England, a 1-megawatt

Burlington Solar Farm off Route 7. Carter says Draker would like to do more business in Vermont and government.

Investors are work here compared with these of other states. A pilot program called the "standard offer," which

extended advantageous rates to solar projects in 2009, attracted many more applicants than it could accommodate.

"We hope the Vermont Legislature expands the program," Carter said during a recent interview in his minimally decorated office. "Clearly the demand is there."

A soft-spoken Connecticut native, Carter joined Draker Labs as CEO two years ago. Before that, he worked as chief financial officer and later in vice president of sales and business development at Northern Power Systems, the Farns-based

manufacturer of wind turbines. He got two degrees from Dartmouth College: a bachelor's in economics and an MBA from the Tuck School of Business.

Carter believes Vermont is a great place for tech companies to do business — though it might not seem that way to outsiders. He says one of the most frequent questions he gets from out-of-state investors is whether he can hire and recruit enough qualified employees at such a small, rural state.

"Their vision of Vermont is not exactly high tech," Carter says. "The good news is that the type of people that want to work in renewable energy don't necessarily want to be in New Jersey or metropolitan New York. They can work in the field and live in a beautiful place like Vermont and raise kids here. That's a benefit."

Carter took over for company founder and chief executive officer A.J. Rossman, who parted ways with Draker this spring because of what he calls "a difference of opinion with number of things internally, including how we go about sales and how we go after new customers." Rossman still maintains a minority stake in the company, but no longer serves on the staff or board.

Rossman admits that he needed managerial help as the company grew — he's an engineer, not a businessman — but says it will still be hard to walk every floor his "bulge."

"I developed the technology platform, recruited the team, gave the company, secured the customer, grew the niche and essentially outperformed the competition to put Draker in a position to become a large company," he says. "Now it's up to the M&A to trigger the value."

Like so many entrepreneurs, Rossman started the company — building solar power systems — in his living room. He founded Draker Solar Design in 1999 when



Chuck Carter

brought to Burlington to study for a PhD at the University of Vermont. At first, he built and installed residential solar power systems but he quickly recognized monitoring was where the money was.

"It became apparent to me that people were spending money on systems and had no idea how well they were working," Rossman says.

So he set up a business, named it after his dog Dinko and established his product—a packaged data management system

"There was a time when I didn't pay employees or myself for nearly three months, that's the first seven employees I had, only one left—and he ended up causing us to fail. We had a lot of good people who were very committed to what we were doing."

A turning point came in 2008, when Draker secured \$1.5 million in venture capital to develop a next-generation energy-monitoring product from a consortium that included Shelburne-



## I GREW THE NICHE AND ESSENTIALLY OUTPERFORMED THE COMPETITION NOW IT'S UP TO THE MBAs TO GROW THE VALUE.

A.J. ROSSMAN, FOUNDER  
AND FORMER CEO, DRAKER LABORATORIES

with a user-friendly web interface—in a trade show. Within days, he had his first customer—a company that sells a commercial power system to race teams in California. Largely, the company, later renamed Draker Laboratories, made monitoring systems for solar and small wind projects—"a little bit of everything," Rossman recalls. He quickly realized the real growth, and the real money were in solar, still, the cash wasn't really rolling in.

Rossman says he charged everything on credit cards, then rolled that debt and a second mortgage he purchased a solar-powered building on North Street and used his equity as it to secure a \$100,000 loan from the Vermont Community Loan Fund.

"I leveraged every cent I had along the way to avoid payroll," Rossman says.

Based FreshDirect Capital, Campbell Scientific, the Nohard Group and Vermont's Clean Energy Development Fund, this past July Draker completed another round of equity funding—\$3 million from New Hampshire-based Harbor Light Capital Partners will propel research and development of its next-generation monitoring infrastructure.

"If you start gaining traction and success, you capture funding sources in Vermont. You're forced to look outside," explains Carter. "That's a double-edged sword in that you need capital to grow, but the more you take from out of state [the more] you weaken your ties to Vermont. We've seen a number of successful tech start-ups acquire as much out of state as they've given. I don't see that being a problem."

Looking ahead, Draker's goal is to launch internationally by the end of 2013. Carter sees "huge potential" in Europe, particularly in solar-friendly Germany and Italy. The challenge, he says, will be to grow smart.

"We're conscious of not pricing on too much 'we don't,' " he says. "Frankly, the challenge for us is innovation." (5)

Draker Laboratories is headquartered at 100 Vermont Term Ave., Friday River Security Center, RR#2, St. Johnsbury, building 2B, Church St., in Burlington.

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# Seeking Geeks

Vermont companies compete to find qualified tech workers

BY KEVIN J. KELLEY

**R**esumes for Vermont tech companies with what they could find more job candidates, like Anthony Urano. The computer information technology major at Champlain College says he hopes to find suitable work in either Vermont or his native New Hampshire.

"It's too cold here for the cold weather and I love the collegial friendliness of the residents," Urano says of the Burlington area. Plus, he's more focused on his prospects for career advancement than on getting the largest possible paycheck as soon as he can.

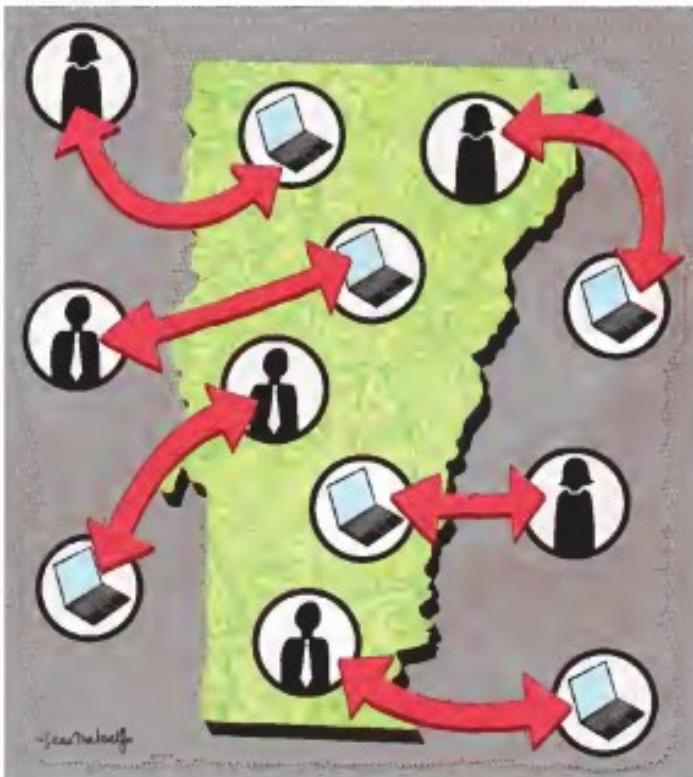
At a time when 16 million Americans are looking for work, many of the state's tech firms are experiencing a labor shortage. That's due, in part, to the sector's rapid growth — in Vermont and elsewhere in the country. South Burlington-based Logic Supply, for example, had three employees in 2004; it's got 34 today. MyWebGrocer has tripled its workforce in the past three years; 150 of its employees will soon be taking over as the company's newly purchased and renovated corporate headquarters in Winooski's Chittenden Mall.

But while tech jobs pay more than most in Vermont — the average salary for a software developer was \$72,880 in 2010, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics — they're more lucrative elsewhere. A recent college graduate with the right skills can might earn at least a third more in an established tech company along Boston's Route 128 than in a young digital business in the Burlington area, estimates Mark Heyman, business director for Logic Supply, which recruits especially from Harvard for its staffers.

Even in Massachusetts, "Demand for high-tech talent is so great that workers are having down-sizable salaries, and companies are offering five-figure cash bonuses for successful referrals," the Boston Globe recently reported.

As long as American universities continue to turn out insufficient numbers of graduates in science, technology, engineering and math — or STEM — wages will rise as the number of available workers falls, causing the cycle to spin ever faster. "We're seeing powerful salary inflation again in the high-tech sector," confides Tom Kenney, chief operating officer of MyWebGrocer, which just raised \$100 million with "the one catch [he] doesn't square with the pay scale." He adds, noting that the Burlington area's expensive housing makes the lower local pay rates even less viable.

But no one slowdown's account for the difficulty of filling vacancies in Vermont's tech job market. "We pay nationally



competitive rates," says Greenworks marketing chief Elias Kelly. "Salary deficiency 'ain't an issue for us.' But because Deeler's growth has been so swift — it has doubled to nearly 300 Burlington employees in the past three years — it's constantly proving too attractive. And the company's Web design websites and software for car dealerships,

does much of its local housing for feasibility

research on the change of living patterns that Vermont's small population yields a shallow pool of technologically proficient candidates. "We almost always have to look elsewhere for programming talent," says Kelly. Greenworks, vice president for human

resources at BioTek in Winooski, which specializes in medical instruments, agrees.

Executive search firms point out that Vermont's small population yields a shallow pool of technologically proficient candidates.

To address the dearth of skilled candidates, some local tech companies have



cultured relationships with potential feeder schools such as Vermont Technical College and Champlain College, some offer paid internships, logic Supply created a scholarship fund for Champlain students who excel in their tech studies.

The University of Vermont produces a few engineering grads equipped to model its specialized programs, and Microstrain in Williston has been quick to offer them jobs. Steve Arms, a UVU grad, founded the company, which makes tiny sensors for applications ranging from auto airbags to drone navigation. "A lot of our people were hand-taught," says Dave Dierksen, Microstrain's vice president of engineering. Generally, though, the engineering school at UVU isn't at as high a level as some other places. "We need the areas of the cream."

An insistence on hiring only the best

drawn, says executive vice-president and CEO Charlie Knipps, And, since Microstrain's old location could die market leader in wildlife cameras and camera apps for mobile phones, it probably makes sense for Green Mountain Digital to stay put on a rural

road. But Microstrain doesn't like telecommuting either: "You can't build a team" when someone's not physically in the workplace, Churchill says.

MyWebBroker and Dierksen each have a few telecommuting employees, but neither company seems eager to encourage it. You lose communication when a worker doesn't run face-to-face in the Champlain Mill, Knipps says. Dealer has "only a handful" of employees, including one of the company's lead executives, who commutes via Skype and telephone. Kelly adds: Dealer, she says, "has been using this out-of-the-garage."

So what's the best way to persuade a well-educated out-of-state to move north for a tech job? "You're selling not only the company, you're also selling Vermont," says Knipps of MyWebBroker.

Bethany Gordon acknowledges that many of us do make sacrifices to live here: Ben Vermeer's spouse left after a lot of his time was devoted to a certain kind of individual," she adds.

Churchill, the head organizer at Microstrain, got offers from out-of-state businesses when he decided 10 years ago to leave his teaching post in orthopedics at UVU's medical school. "There I looked around, but I made the choice to stay in Vermont for lots of reasons," he relates.

"Beautiful scenery, great people and abundant opportunity," says Champlain senior Stephen Jelonek, while reporting on computer forensics. "It's not much of a winter person, though," he adds, by way of explaining why he is returning home to New Jersey to find a job.

Other techies, like Churchill, come to Vermont from away and wind up spending more or all of their careers here. Nearly all of the employment specialists interviewed for this study say their company's workforce exhibits extraordinary loyalty. Vermont's values and workplace culture compensate in many cases for all the drawbacks of living in the state.

"It's the lifestyle that attracts young people who like the outdoors," Kelly of Dierksen says. "They are also attracted to live in Burlington. I haven't found a single person my age want to leave." Dealer cultivates an image of happiness that specifically relieves employees from wondering about their individuality to a code of corporate conduct.

Gordon makes a similar claim of firm employee commitment in regard to EAS, which has 43 employees and employs 265 people. "We haven't lost anyone in the competition," she says of the Wisconsin company, and, at the same time, "We are successful in hiring from our direct competitors." Gordon adds, "Some of them come from large companies that have been bought out and sold, and they are themselves or having been treated as commodities. They don't get that here!" ☐

## MICROSTRAIN SPENT SEVEN MONTHS LANDING THE MOST RECENT ADDITION TO ITS 55-MEMBER WORKFORCE.

can lead to a protracted and often frustrating recruitment process for many Vermont tech companies. "We look for a high level of passion and a deep knowledge of tools. Finding that is a real challenge," says Hayman of Logic Supply. "It takes time to locate the right candidate."

Microstrain spent seven months landing the same seven additions to its 55-member workforce, Churchill reports.

Some don't let technological Global 2 International, which manages other companies' microstrain and testing units. "We're very cautious about our recruiting process," says HR manager for Audio Bidder, "atching up with the chemistry and culture of our company is very important."

Not surprisingly, most Vermont tech companies smart sheet showing workers to live out of state. Though some are starting to experiment with permitting telecommuting rather than making new hires remote.

Through 45 from any nearby city, Woodstock-based Green Mountain Digital Express is implementing a live video streaming

Global 2's current opening for a marketing assistant "often present telecommuting options," HR manager Belmont says, explaining that the right person for the job wouldn't have to come into the office more than once a month. The Burlington-based company doesn't have much choice about telecommuting, however, given that it's situated in an area with a lower pay scale even compared to Burlington and Montpelier and definitely the [All] my Capital District," Belmont says.

The lack of opportunity for lateral movement also hampers Vermont companies that compete for employees with businesses in tech-savvy areas. "Vermont has a reputation for not offering a lot of options," says Logic Supply's Hayman. "That starts by a mid-size techie. Most by a Burlington business may well be ready for new challenges — and higher pay — by age 30, but he or she will probably have to move out of state to find a meaningful fit." Young employees on the line having mobility," notes Gordon of EAS.

**H**uman resources director from the first, Burlington-based Mountain Logic Supply (www.mountainlogic.com) will open a panel discussion "How to Succeed Out in the High Peaks" at the Vermont Business Festival October 19 at 10 a.m. in the Broken Building (20 Church St.) in Burlington.

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# Engineering Evangelist

John Cohn turns kids on to science with robots, rap and a pickle electrocutor

BY MEGAN JAMES



JOHN COHN

**T**wo weeks before Halloween, IBM fellow John Cohn is out in the woods, perched on a tree stump with his laptop, bringing out his latest code. He's attempting to program his animatronic pumpkin-headed monster, Projecto, to fold up its arms after a period of inactivity, so the limbs aren't crushed when the beast is lowered presentation-style from its 15-foot height into a crouching position on the ground.

though?" Stevens says, gesturing to Cohn through the trees.

Cohn is a soft rockstar, with 50 patients issued or pending. He designed the chips for the Xbox 360, PlayStation 3 and, his personal favorite, the Wii, but the 52-year-old, who lives in a converted schoolhouse in Richmond, has had another from the last 22 years: getting kids excited about science, engineering and technology. He's traveled to schools across the country

**HE DESIGNED THE CHIPS FOR THE XBOX 360, PLAYSTATION 3 AND HIS PERSONAL FAVORITE, THE WII.**



accompanying Cohn & John Stevens, who helped create the monster for Wilton's Haunted Forest, as an IBM intern three years ago. Now, fresh out of graduate school and in his first year working for IBM, the young engineer considers tinkering with the monster just exactly part of his job description. "It's not getting paid for this gig."

"I do get to work with one of the greatest technical geniuses in Vermont,

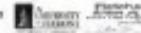
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Engineering Evangelist 29

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## Engineering

Cohen does look odd — in a geeky kind of way — constantly clicking little boards, his purple-robot robot, its orange eyes glowing while its electronic innards hum and gurgle. Ever since he began his educational outreach, Cohen has showcased himself as a media icon, and he looks the part. His longish white-grey hair and full beard enclose his face like a suit holds

Why has such dedicated genius devoted so much time to education? Cohen reaches into his pocket and pulls out a small mouse engraved with the name Sam. It's a tribute to Cohen's middle son, who was killed in a traffic accident in 2006 at age 14. Ever since, Cohen has poured most of his energy into engaging kids from age 5 with the magic of science and engineering. "It's the

example you could pay off the book of a television set and find genuine components wired together considerably than work. The computer chip changed it all first. Suddenly people like Cohen and his colleagues at IBM started looking at those components only specialized chips. You couldn't set what was in there and how it was working, let alone take it apart and reassemble it."

But Cohen says technology is changing back to awesomeness, for one simple reason: "Geeky people invented the Internet," he says.

Cohen stops pacing for a moment and turns his attention to Shostak, who is struggling with the monster's mouth. It is supposed to open and close when someone speaks into a microphone. It's not working. Gobolathes thrashes and lets a few howling barks. Nothing. He tries a different pitch.



thing that has made the most sense to me," he says. "In some ways, it's been drug."

Cohen gets up from his generator and begins pacing up and down the trail leading deeper into the Haunted Forest. When he was a child, Cohen says, he didn't notice any compelling characters to entice him to pursue technology. Growing up in Houston, Texas, he was "completely surrounded by the space craze," he writes in a Huffington Post essay. By the time he saw Neil Armstrong's feet touch the dusty surface of the moon, the 10-year-old Cohen had made up his mind to study engineering.

Then again, he was "really geeky," he adds. Cohen spent much of his early childhood tinkering with Rube Goldberg, the do-it-yourself kits that provided electronics hobbyists with all the components — and instructions — they'd need to build their own TVs, radios or other gadgets.

"I was meant to begin with, but then over the next 20 years, it became decreasingly cool," says Cohen. Why? Electronics were becoming steadily less accessible to hobbyists because "the technology became a little less transparent," he says. In the '80s, for

Shostak, he breaks out his song: "Hello, I love you, won't you?" Still nothing. He powers the rule book to Shostak, offers some words of encouragement and wearily breaks out to the rule book to restore his strength.

The Internet, Cohen says, made technology accessible again because it allowed people to share ideas — and, more amazingly, to share code and design files, giving way to the phenomenon that is "open source." As a result, a new consciousness is born, says Cohen.

He gravitates to the purple robot and explains that it operates on an Arduino microcontroller, the open-source circuit board designed to make electronics more accessible to hobbyists and scientists alike.

"The team has created a company based on giving everything away," writes Wind Gustafson of the Italian firm responsible for the device. On the Web site, it posts all its trade secrets for anyone to take ... Download them and you can manufacture an Arduino yourself; there are no patents." Would like a high-tech hoodie?

Now that DIY technology is feasible — and relatively affordable — Cohen and others local tech-savvy types want to make it available to Vermont communities. If more

thing to wow kids with an astronomical moment or two is to give them the tools to make something themselves. "I can tell you about riding a bike, but it's powerless," says Cohn. "Science gets us doing."

To that end, for the last year or so, Cohn has been working with Essex High School and the University of Vermont to set up a network of so-called "makerspaces." The idea would be equipped with tools such as 3D printers and circuit-board cutters, staffed by students and other trained community members, and open to students and the general public.

Essex High School received a \$10,000 grant to construct a makerspace that would be situated with another lab at UVM, says Joe Chase, the high school's learning community leader for math, science and design technology. Chase was first introduced to the maker space concept when he and some colleagues visited an engineering and science magnet school in Virginia. He approached Cohn to be on the advisory board. "The idea is to put state-of-the-art equipment into the hands of students," says Chase. They're more likely to pursue a career in engineering, he adds, if they can make things that actually work, rather than wasting school time on "projects made out of popsicle sticks."

Another bonus: Makerspaces would offer opportunities for people to work across disciplines — an notion many women partake with a computer scientist, say, to design aimplant for a medical scandal. Chase and Cohn agree that this is likely to attract girls and young women to the male-dominated field.

According to Cohn, less than 20 percent of engineers are women. The field "hasn't been very inviting," he says, citing a recent study in which people were asked what they think about engineering. The top three answers were "It's difficult," "You have to be really good at math and science," "It's not for everyone."

Still, Cohn believes that the public perception — at least among young people — is shifting. That's why he works with these days spent organizing local with mostly computer programmers and others with design and innovation:

"It's all about inspiring people imagination," says Cohn, who has done some crazy things in the name of that goal. For 30 days in 2014 he lived inside and Los Angeles warehouse with nine other cast members of the Discovery Channel show, "The Colony." The controlled living space was designed to simulate life after a global catastrophe. Cohn was the resident scientist, looking regular electricals and — what reality show would be complete without it — solving puzzles.

To Cohn, it was one more opportunity to connect with young viewers and get them psyched about science and engineering. So did it work? "I have 4,000 Facebook friends," he says proudly. "It got a lot of people talking. I can't shake it; it's a better way to reach out to people all at once."

He reached another community that year at Burning Man, the counterculture festival in the Nevada desert. Cohn and his friend Hunter Wilke, the Moonless engineer and mechanical engineer who devised and built Projector's prominent structure, constructed a massive, self-powered, drivable farm wheel for the event. On YouTube, you can watch their creation in action, the wheel being lit up with colorful lights, its strong metal base tilted with nearly naked festivalegoers growing on a pumping base.

"It's a weird laboratory," says Cohn. And then there's his music video, "Engineering Paradise," which has more than 180,000 hits on YouTube. Declined just as a no-day job role in the mail,

scientist speaks rapper Coflio in a pretty successful effort — if the comments below the video are any indication — to make engineering cool. It doesn't hurt that he throws down lidocaine, and often bring rhythmic

sustains, "if you're a gamer you can't give me no lip 'till when you be fraggin' yo homies, you be wearin' my chp!"

Some say the open-source site has marked the end of the inventor. Cohn doesn't buy it. Sure, the individual glitz of Thomas Edison-style inventing might be gone, but Cohn is confident that kids today are excited by the prospect of using new technology to produce innovative and meaningful things, especially when it comes to facing down their environmental big issues, such as climate change.

"You don't have to sell kids on the fact that technology might have given us into this mess, but technology might also get us out of it," he says. Plus, their kids aren't interested in cartoonish stuff that will make them sit back and dream. He believes what interests kids is to create exactly what interests him: the simple joy of creating and the desire to do good work.

"Doing something good could mean using the northeast, or it could mean having a really good time at a camp," he says, pointing to "making pajorts sort that important to me but making peace or art or music is it?" □

## THERE IS NOTHING COOLER THAN BEING A SCIENCE GEEK.

JOHN COHN

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**I** love Cohn and either his "Jedis and Witches" convention at the Vermont Tech Fair Friday, December 11, in Brattleboro, or the Berners building, 290 Church St., in Burlington

# Scaling the Firewall

Vermont's Pwnie Express sells a powerful new tool for cyber-security experts — and hackers

BY KEN PICARD

**M**any a lucrative industry is born from antecedent roots. Hip-hop music tapped the gritty lifestyle of inner-city youths and turned it into solid gold. Sellers and stockholders turned once-maligned and often-illegal recreational pastimes into family-friendly multi-billion-dollar industries.

Similarly, the cyber-security world has its share of entrepreneurs who wear the "hacker" label with pride. Blister Jeff Moss, aka "The Dark Tangent," founded two of the world's largest hacker conventions, Black Hat Technical Security Conference and DEF CON. Holding Conference. In recent years, those annual events have morphed into recognized forums for cyber-security experts working at the FBI, CIA, NSA, and Pentagon. Further evidence that the line between the black hats and white hats can be blurry. In April, Moss was appointed chief security officer for the nonprofit Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers, the group charged with preserving the operational stability of the Internet.

Vermont's own Pwnie Express, founded in 2010, also embodies the hacker aesthetic. The company sells products that allow its clients to test for vulnerabilities in their computer networks. The name comes from the hacker term "pwn" — it rhymes with "own" — which means to control another person's computer, often surreptitiously and for malicious purposes.

Despite the rib-stomaching moniker, company founder and sole employee Dave Portcullis says Pwnie Express is all of the good guys. His clients are all "legitimate security professionals" who work to keep criminal hackers from breaching their firewalls and wreaking havoc on their organizations.

Pwnie Express helps its clients play defense by providing a good offense. Portcullis claims that the company's hottest product, the "Pwn Plug," is a very powerful offensive tool that can be dangerous in the wrong hands. Little wonder that since its release, in August 2010, hundreds of Pwn Plugs have been

sold to security experts at major corporations, universities, and US military and intelligence agencies.

Portcullis, 32, is a former IT security expert from Boston who spent five years at Vermont Mutual Insurance Group in Stowe before starting the company in June just as his business took off. He says the idea behind the Pwn Plug — a "drop

niches of the information security world known as "vulnerability assessment," an umbrella term for various technical analyses of computer networks.

Simply put, a vulnerability assessment looks for weaknesses or mistakes that allow hackers to enter a network undetected. Once inside, a hacker may

try to damage, disrupt or shut down an organization's operations, as a hacker named "Codename" did to the University of Vermont's website in

2010. "So, the question is, how can you get on to your own network and know whether data [are] leaking?"

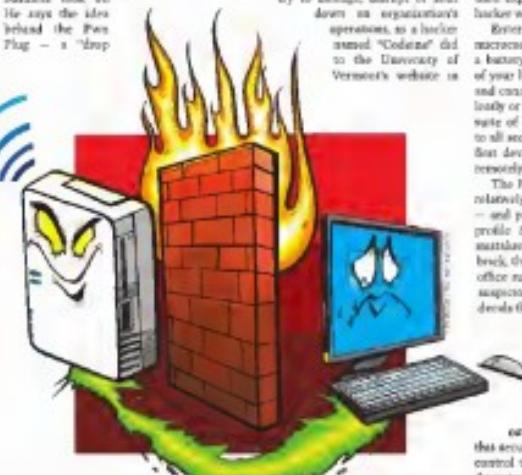
Security experts point against such leakage, sometimes called "data exfiltration," by conducting penetration testing, or "pen-testing" for short. In effect, pen-testing identifies those vulnerabilities, then explores them in the same way a hacker would.

Enter the Pwn Plug, a Li-ion-powered microcomputer that's about the size of a battery charge and fits in the palm of your hand. It plugs into a wall outlet and connects to a network either wirelessly or via an ethernet cable. It runs a suite of open-source software favored by all security professionals, but it's the first device that lets a user operate it remotely.

The Pwn Plug is small, portable and relatively inexpensive — it costs \$300 — and part of its appeal is its stealthy profile. Since the device can easily be mistaken for an AC adaptor or power brick, the Pwn Plugs can be placed in an office surreptitiously and never attract suspicion. In fact, it even comes with details that can encourage it to appear genuine, such as a plug-in air freshener.

Once "caused," Hughes says, the Pwn Plug creates an "excepted host" through the firewall and out of the network. Essentially, that secure channel can then be used to control the device remotely. It's at the discretion of the user to determine what software tools he or she decides to run — and for what purposes.

What's getting the Pwn Plug? Portcullis and Hughes won't disclose the names of specific customers, but of the more than 400 devices that Pwnie Express has sold — the majority in the last three months — some have gone to Remote 0 companies, the U.S. Army, Air Force, Coast Guard and Department of Defense. In fact, Pwnie Express now has the authority to sell to any agency of the U.S. government and has secured export certification, though the company can't sell to foreign governments. (Pwnie claims an order ever came in from Iran; it was denied.)



box" or my computer, that's designed to give a user remote access to a computer network. Through covert channels, I've been hacking around for years. He was simply the first to commercialize it.

"By something that hackers are actually using, no security professionals have to be aware of it, too," Portcullis explains. "And some of them are realizing they have to be using these themselves."

Mark Hughes, a former U.S. Army cryptographer who handles marketing for Pwnie Express, explains how the Pwn Plug fits into a previously unfilled

August. A hacker may plant malware, or "malware," in harvested valuable data, such as credit card numbers and other personally identifiable information that can be used for fraud and identity theft. A hacker may also steal proprietary information for industrial espionage, state secrets for cyberterrorism, or classified information to those or even other governments.

"A lot of times you can be losing things and not know you're losing [them], and still be held responsible," Hughes



The Pan-Empress buyer is a security professional who was invited by his employer, a major national bank, with infiltrating 16 of the company's branches. According to Hughes, the security professional would enter each branch and pretend to be a maintenance worker who was monitoring the building's climate-control system. Each time he was allowed inside, he'd connect the Pan Plug to a computer via an ethernet cable. One bank manager even got up from her chair and allowed him to climb under her desk to install it. The exercise demonstrated in the bank just how easy it would be to pause an defense.

And just last week, Hughes was contacted by a state attorney general's office, which ordered a "Pan Phone" — another Pan-Empress product, which operates on a telephone and wireless

Stephenson, who is familiar with the Pan Plug but hasn't tested one himself, calls the device "a very dangerous tool, because it provides the ability to have a back door into the network."

As he explains, most computer networks are what he calls "stealth networks." They're hardened crunchy on the outside and soft on the inside. That is, in recent years firewalls have become sufficiently hardened to keep out most unwanted visitors. The far bigger threat these days are those that come from inside the firewall, where it's far easier for data to be encrypted.

How do hackers get to the "soft inside?" Stephenson lists today's most serious computer threats to consumers. They can't like you in your own home unless they're invited inside. Hackers do this in a variety of ways, such as by sending

## IT'S SOMETHING THAT HACKERS ARE ACTIVELY USING, SO SECURITY PROFESSIONALS HAVE TO BE AWARE OF IT, TOO.

DANIEL PIRELLI

networks — to track an ethnic gang that traffics in children. As Pirelli puts it, "Apparently, this is something people have been writing for."

Although Pan-Empress was incorporated last year, Pirelli says he sold fewer than a half-dozen Pan Plugs in 2010 and did no marketing whatsoever on the product and mostly Pirelli and several of his subcontractors (including Hughes) attended Black Hat in late July but didn't even speak about it.

Nevertheless, as they arrived at the convention site, Cisco's Cyber Police in Las Vegas, Pirelli was making up the escalator and being surprised by a giant Cisco Systems banner on the wall that read, "Take our security challenge and win a Pan-Empress Pan Phone." The following week, at the DEF CON conference in Vegas, Pan-Empress won a booth and sold more than 200 Pan Plugs in three days.

"It was extremely well received," Pirelli says.

The potential for abuse of these devices is obvious. Peter Stephenson is director of Norwich University's Center for Advanced Computing and Digital Forensics, and also serves as Norwich's chief information security officer. He says Stephenson hit by about 10,000 cyber attacks per day, as he fully appreciates the nature of the risks out there.

ing seemingly innocuous and legitimate emails containing attachments with malware or other hidden programs. The Pan Plug, he adds, could be used as a security tool, or "like the vampire" once allowed inside, it can stalk your network day.

Stephenson emphasizes that he's not disgracing the product or its developer. "I have all the respect in the world for these folks [at Pan-Empress]," he said. "What these guys have done with that thing is clever. The technology is good technology."

At the same time, Stephenson notes that when he mentioned the Pan Plug to Norwich's security engineer, "His immediate reaction was, 'I'm glad that that won't work on our network, because if it did, every student there would have one.'

When asked about that remark, Pirelli's smile could almost be heard over the phone line.

"I don't know," he says. "A lot of people think that, but in reality, I can pretty much guarantee that this would get through their network."

Let the cyber games begin! ☐

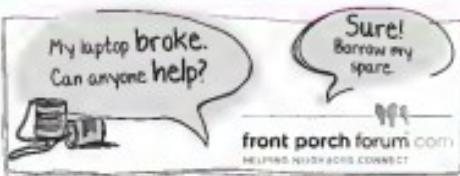
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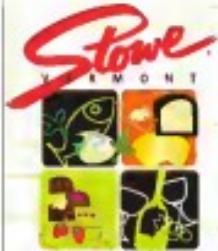
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# Ready, Set, Play

Dev Jana offers sound advice to Vermont's growing game-design community

BY PAMELA POLSTON



**Y**ou go online to play a new game called "Roy G. Biv." Immediately, you hear a rhythmic, industrial clank, and it picks up speed. Syncopated percussion on a regular laptop adds an almost jazz-like kick. A slightly mangled electric melody like bubbles up. All this confuses and obscures soundtrack, and you find your non-tapping hand bubbling, your body moving in sync. And this is before "Roy G. Biv" even begins.

Click on the game's introduction, and you hear an even snappier riff, vaguely reminiscent of an old Allman Brothers tune. You start to play in earnest and the sounds turn edgy, slightly amateur, nudging up the adolescent level as you try to defend a cute little 3-D robot named Roy against an invading horde of bugs. You become aware that your own mouse elicits a variety of tones.

"Roy G. Biv" is an online tower-defense game created by Dev Jana, 28, a game designer and assistant professor at Burlington's Champlain College. A multi-instrumentalist, he also composes the procedural music for his games.



Submitted from Roy G. Biv

Recently, he's helped to create a new app within Champlain's nationally renowned Game Studio sonic art. The way a game sounds, he believes, is as least as important as how it looks.

This weekend at the Vermont Tech Jam, Jana says visitors will be able to hear and play his "Roy G. Biv" on Mac and PC. "It will be about 90 percent done," he promises. Versions for iPhone, and



Android platforms will roll out by early December. After that, the owner of Jana Media will begin production on his next two games.

Jana doesn't spend much time sitting still. "I'm extraordinarily active," he declares in between bites of pizza at a recent hashbrown breakfast. "I have sleeping."

Indeed. The speed at which Jana

moves as increased in the way he works ramble out, as if trying to keep up with his thoughts. Check out his guitar playing on YouTube, and you can see his fingers are equally nimble.

The son of immigrants — Indian father, Filipino mother — Jana was born in Erie, Pa., and earned degrees in computer systems and game engines. Over the decade before he came to Burlington, he taught at several schools around the country, worked for private companies large and small, designed games, created apps for the iPhone, and... apparently didn't sleep much.

Since arriving here just over a year ago with his wife, Krystal, Jana has fully immersed himself in what he calls a "very welcoming" community — both academic and musical. He plays in several bands — Wurlington's Army, Phil Your and the Dragoons and his own Dragoony Physics — and has quickly become a popular instructor at Champlain.

"We were very happy to find him," says Amanda Crigell, game-program director and manager of the Game Studio, in a phone interview. "He has an incredible skill set. Students are fighting over getting into his pre-production class." Crigell adds that Jana's audio course has made Champlain's game-design curricula "even richer."

Since it launched in 2004, the enigma's Game Studio — which offers design, art and animation, production, and programming in a "cohort," team-based structure — has grown dramatically. Jana is one of 15 teachers overseeing a cohort of nearly 250 students. "It's now a fifth of our college population," Crigell notes.

This year, the Princeton Review ranked it among the top 10 game-design programs in the country. A dozen selected Game Studio students get cutting-edge, real-world experience working on outside projects with game-design professionals at the college's Emerging Media Center. And they have an opportunity to study at Champlain's Montreal campus; the Quebec city is the world's second-largest game development center, home to Electronic Arts and Ubisoft.

Jana says he finds teaching at Champlain "very fulfilling." But he's less effusive about the state of Vermont's game support for the gaming industry. "Can name 15 rock bands?" he says of the vibrant local music scene. "The

should be able to name people who are making games here."

Jana wants to help change that. "The Tech Jam is kind of a coming-out party for me," he suggests. He's eager to demonstrate that Vermont is exactly the kind of place for small, start-up technology-based business.

"I want to attract part of the billion-dollar gaming industry here," Jana says. "People get connected here; there's community and community. There's the kind of strong working environment that can help us sustain a growing industry."

Though he believes games are an important way to reach "young minds," Jana points out that games aren't just for kids anymore. "Games are writing to mature," he says. "It's a great statistic-experience medium and an enormous industry. There is no reason to approach it as toys."

Craigel agrees. "Games are becoming mass-market communication media," she says, noting that some of Champlain's game-making graduates work in public relations, business, education and other kinds of instruction. "There are lots of areas and learning environments," she also agrees that Vermont is "an excellent place for small, independent studios" in the gaming industry. "My guess," Craigel adds, "is the Vermont Department of Labor, which stands in the way of success of small tech studios because of the way they handle contract labor. It denies contract work out of state."

The growing number of technology businesses — and tech-minded grads — in Vermont may eventually lobby for changes in that environment. Meanwhile, Dev Jana keeps busy teaching design, making games and composing music. "I'm trying to do people how important sound is," he says. Studies have shown, he adds, that "those who listen to or play music regularly have less memory loss."

Remember that when you're defending Roy against the bugs. ☐

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DEV JANA

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On Jana's demonstration new game, "They G Roast," at the Vermont Tech Jam on Friday October 28 and Saturday October 29 at the Weston Auditorium at Church St. in Burlington.  
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# Bon App?

Testing smartphone foodie fare in Vermont

BY CORIN HIRSCH



**F**or a while now, I've dreamed of creating a wine app for smartphone. It would be full of intuitive search parameters, tantalizing tasting notes and thousands of matching recipes. But since I began to comb through the hundreds of food and drink apps that already exist, I abandoned the idea. There's an app for just about everything, from counting carbs to finding a restaurant in Riyadh to mastering Portuguese cuisine. But most of those apps promise to locate the mineral-heavy, gluten-free lunch or food truck. And the wine-pairing app? Done, and done again.

But do these gadgets work well here in Vermont? After all, the state does present some challenges — they

towns, for instance, and a tendency to cook seasonally and make hyper-local wine, beer and cheese. So I find the ones that do work. I loaded my iPhone with food- and drink-related apps and tested them on the street, in the store and in the kitchen.

The successes were limited. I discovered that some dining apps don't work at all in this relatively isolated region. Others are rare and mostly western — for instance, restaurant-reviewer Zagat doesn't cover Vermont at all, and many of the bar/patio apps don't have a handle on local microbrews and craft beers.

Among the dozen I played with, though, I found a few keepers.

## Best app for finding a restaurant

### URBANSPOON (FREE)

Of the dining apps that popularize the "I'll eat there" trope, I've used Yelp most often, launching it on road trips to find decent eats in unfamiliar places. (In Vermont, however, I use the print or web version of *Nights, the Seven Days* dining and night-life guide.)

But though Yelp gets props for hooking me up with drugstores, gas stations and national parks, Urbanspoon scores high when it comes to dining out. Both apps have reviews, easy-to-use interfaces and active user communities. But their differences become clear

when I pushed them to the ultimate test: At the junction of routes 100 and 105 in Sheldon, Vt., a laid-back and seemingly restaurant-free plain, I launched more than a dozen apps to find dining options.

Locality, Bluetooth, New and Alfred, among others, served up lists by the location. Yelp offered a few places in Esopus Falls; about five miles away, Grubspoon spewed out a third as many more, and, if I shook the phone, it chose a place at random. In Sheldon, that didn't come up with Haley's Cafe in Esopus Falls. Another while, in Ascutney, upgrid me showed McDonald's Scottish Pub in Chester. Urbanspoon is apparently tuned in to good, rural grub, too.

### Dining app I wish more Vermonters used

### FOODSPOTTING (FREE)

This handsome little app encourages users to snap photos of their meals and upload them onto a scrumptious shareable database. When Foodspotting prepares your lacrosse, it coughs up pictures of dishes that have been taken nearby; you can view and comment on other people's meals, and, of course, can pay a visit to the same resto yourself. Foodspotting is fast to load, easy to use and perfect for visually oriented types such as myself.

Unfortunately, the app doesn't seem to be in heavy use in Vermont. Many photos are months old, and I suspect that some entries (a new breakfast place in Burlington, for instance) load Foodspotting with their own culinary show. I've added a picture of the new Old School sandwich shop in Winooski's Poling Block House and plan to keep boasting the library. You should, too.



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# || SIDE dishes

BY LOREN HIRSCH &amp; ALICE LEVITT

## Teas for Babes

BROOKLYN, N.Y.: CEDAR VELTA CO.

On some evenings when AMY or JESSICA CARTER hosted a cup of tea, me or more of their three children used to come over. One night, they were enjoying what their parents drink, though, the kids tended to turn up their noses at the tasteless beers.

"Sometimes I found excuses not to eat it for them," says Amy Carter, but she and her husband eventually realized they'd rather their kids drink tea than sodas or hot chocolate. So the Warren couple began spending 20 minutes each night in their kitchens, finding blends their kids might like — a process that took more than a year. They also spent art and music time to the new family tea-drinking ritual. "We wanted to incorporate all of those things to make it an interactive experience," says Amy Carter.

The Carters have decided to spin the fruits of those labors — organic, caffeine-free, sugar-free, artificial sweetener-free fair-trade teas — into the **SHRIMP TEA** emporium, a tea atelier for kids. Since the Carters are not from soup to collaborating musicians, a music school is forthcoming as well. Two of the flavors — the extremely aromatic A Little Night Music, which smells like warm apple pie and the vanilla-scented Boogie & Vole — launched last week. A thirdberry flavor, Blueberry-Banana-Booberry, will follow in a few weeks. All are sweetened with Stevia leaves and boast

various health benefits. The Booberry is A Little Night Music; side digression, for instance, as does the first in the Boogie & Vole.

The tea, with colorful labels illustrated by Vermont artist Carly Sorenson, starts at \$12 per bag (and is tea-sachets inside) on the company's website, and

Carter hopes they'll soon be for sale in local shops. Ten percent of each sale benefits music and arts programs such as Children's Art Village — which brings the arts to children in India and Ghana — and Little Kids Rock, which revitalizes school music programs in the U.S.

— CH

## Crumbs

LEPTON BREAD MEETS...

It's been a long jumper-and-honey-laden road, but **BAKU VIBRA AND BAKELLAH** are on their way to Vermont state liquor stores.

The spirits are the newest project of **CALEXICO SPIRITS**, where the Hardwick makers of Caledonia Honey Mead and Elderberry Cordial, among other elixirs, The 90-proof gin is infused with juniper berry and honey, and the 30-proof vodka is distilled from raw local honey. Twenty-five cases of elixirs should be at shelves within a week.

The **PENITENT PIE** chapter areas to grow and grow. The family-owned chain has just purchased the space adjacent to its Pleasant Street bistro that used to house **HOME BAKE RESTAURANT**. Co-owner CHILD ARRIVENS says the new space will most likely expand on the Penitent Pie concept, but the family now owns seven

## Wrapping the Season

SWEET PINT IN THE KITCHEN

Following two-decades of foods summer, **MARY PAT STAGG** in Burlington's Intervale has found a way to make lemons into lemonade — or rather, green chiles into delicious hummus. "After the flooding of the spring, I leveled out, and I was like, 'What is going to be the shortest summer on record?'" says MARY PAT STAGG, who runs the farm with her husband, **MARK**. "I started canning and preserving and roasting and freezing. Then frost happened, and I was like, 'All right, it is the shortest summer.'

Two weekends ago, the Wilsons had their kitchen licensed for professional use. At this year's **VERMONT WOMEN FARMERS MARKET**, the couple will add all the peppers, tomatoes and onions they freeze over the short summer — as hummus.

Both grew up eating hummus in Colorado. "When tragedy struck, I go to my comfort zone, which is cooking my grandmother's food," says Mary Pat. Farley this month, Spencer's mother lovingly canned pinto beans across the country from a distance. Colorado farms to supply the couple.

The Wilsons will make their own hummus on the eve of harvest. The day will start with a vegetarian or sausage-filled breakfast burrito. At lunch time, the couple will serve home hummus topped with pickled green chile sauce, vegetarian red chile sauce or both, in a condiment they call "Chorotom."

And Chorotom will come early this year for Mexican food lovers — the Winter Farmers Market runs on November 3.

— AK

locations in Vermont and upstate New York, she must now begin **PIZZA SPARKLE** in Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

Two of **HIMMEL'S SECRET SOUP**'s pop-up soup nights at Mississipi's **KITCHEN** now have more places to find the fare. Owners **KATE DALZALM** (also



the chef) and **MEGAN POLAR** now bring their traveling soulkitchen to Moreauville **MELISSA'S** on Mondays and Warren's **MOTT'S TERRINE** on Tuesdays, in addition to their ongoing Wednesday-night residence at Kismet.

While the Kismet owners have no tasting menu, the other two nights are à la carte, with an assortment of rolls, ravioli and loaded tater tots. "Our original plan was to open a restaurant in one location, this is our way of really getting to know the community and understanding where our restaurant/food will be most



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## Bon App?

Local dining app that I  
wish worked better

### VERMONT EATS: THE ESSENTIAL GREEN TRAVEL GUIDE (\$2.99)

When I first heard about the new Vermont Eats app from its originator, Durian Yates, my curiosity was piqued.

An app that truly covers the local food landscape would be worth twice this price, especially as it's built with input from Yates' book of the same name.

Unfortunately, getting the app onto your phone is cumbersome. First, you need to download the developer's Samsa World app, then download the 300-plus megabytes of data for the Vermont Eats guide. The download kept pausing when my phone was sleeping and ultimately took three days. (Others say that bug is fixed with the most recent version of Samsa World, but it still didn't work smoothly for me.)

The app itself is ambitious and impressive, though, with more than 400 listings for farms, crafts, farmers markets and food producers all over the state. Each has its own tiny thumbnail, which is probably what slows down the program. Once the links are worked out and users begin uploading comments, Vermont Eats will be a valuable resource for locals and tourists alike.

**Best app for building  
dinner around seasonal  
ingredients**

### ALLRECIPES DINNER SPINNER (FREE)

I tend to be minimalist without a list and buy whatever food seems fresh. When you shop like this — building a meal around a specific item in your CSA bin or the short ribs on sale at the meat counter, for instance — Allrecipes Dinner Spinner is your friend. It delivers basic recipe ideas on which you can put your own spin.

For instance,

I was recently seduced by some fresh trout filets in my local supermarket. The gourmand recipe clearhouse (spicy) — gorgonzola but not enough to load — suggested I pair the fish with parsnip puree, orange-garlic butter sauce, or pumpkin seeds and cabbage-cilantro salad. All lovely ideas, but since I would probably not strength on a weeknight. When you enter your item into the nose box, Allrecipes allows you to filter dishes with parameters such as "in today" or "for sedentary," and then lists dozens of simple — and user-rated — recipes. For most, Allrecipes suggested techniques for grilling, baking and pan sautéing with full details. I picked a simple sandwich. If you don't have a specific ingredient in mind, you can use the "gourmet," a set of chits with which you choose the dish type, main ingredient (eg., ham or shellfish) and amount of time you have to cook.

**Best (virtual) celebrity  
chef to have in your palm**

### MARK BITTMAN, HOW TO COOK EVERYTHING (\$4.99)

Cooking could-be author Mark Bittman is a celebrity who's a stretch, especially when placed in the company of better-known chefs such as Jamie Oliver or Mario Batali. Yet when I tested his cooking app, How to Cook Everything, against the wildly popular versions of the like, two, Bittman's app is the most charming and depth.

Jamie Oliver's 20-Minute Meals (\$8.99) starts with a rentals video and backs each recipe with even more videos. Yet it really didn't catch my eye. Mario Batali's Cook! (\$9.99) is fun to use, with a nippable map of Italy that points regional specialties. But the



# 11 SIDE dishes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 31

appreciated," writes Kolback in an email.

Winter is nearly upon us, but farmers recovering from Tropical Storm Irene may be busier than usual during the frigid months now that they have means to repair the damage. In its seventh round of grants, the **VERMONT DRAUGHT RELIEF FUND** awarded \$24,800 to 49 farms damaged by flooding, bringing the total grants up to \$146,000. One hundred and one farmers have received aid.

—K.L.

content is limited, especially considering the price.

Most amazingly, neither of these two is specifically ingredient. How to Cook Everything, on the other hand, offered numerous recipes for that glut of squash we face this time of year. The app is compatible with how many Vermont foodies cook, using whatever is local and seasonal. Also, nested within each recipe are great substitutions and techniques for tools such as peeling garlic or filleting fish.

### Best app for wine pairing

**WINE PICKS & PAIRINGS:** NATALIE MACLEAN (FREE)

Once I'd settled on a flavor of meat,为主线 and paired bacon-wrapped squash, I started to choose a wine that paired with both. More than a dozen wine-pairing apps exist, but my favorite for uses — I chose four — and each takes a different approach. With Wine to Match, a user is asked only broadly about ingredients — trout becomes "white fish," for instance, and some foods, such as nuts, aren't included.

Enter Natalie MacLean, the savvy Australian wine writer who recently launched her own wine-pairing app. Her marketing has been so intense that I would have it downloaded to my phone if I was wrong. MacLean's app is loaded with recipes for pairing, and can send wine-list-style bar codes to generate tasting notes. For my meal, her app suggested an Old World Chardonnay, for the squash, a Viognier. At first I was

surprised, but I generally get mixed results for pairing the public, but **PLATEFULY MELT'S HEALTHY GAMS** is an exception. Last week, Health Care Without Harm, an international sustainable health care coalition, bestowed two first-place awards on the hospital, the Sustainable Food Procurement Award and the Sustainable Food Policy and Advocacy Award. Burlington's hospital beat out more than 400 others for the former by spending more than a third of its annual \$1.6 million budget

on Vermont-made products, and even more on regional ones. HCWH also educated the community through its **HCWH VERMONT AND NEW ENGLAND SUSTAINABLE FOODS SUMMIT**. Those good-eatness awards should make the chicken-sausage sandwich at **CAFE EXPRESSO** taste even better.

Those looking forward to the Saturday-planned dinner at **assassins**, paired with the Vermont International Film Festival's screening of *Dish*, *Movies*, *Wine*, and the *Art* of Service had better make

separate reservations. Dinner will be served at noon at **\$48/TABLE**, the Esopus Ciderhouse restaurant, during and after the 21+ screening at 8:30 pm. But the tasting dinner at **Rustica** has been canceled due to scheduling conflicts. Club Tastie 2 will also host a showing of *Bright Eyes & Popper's Journey* at 4 pm on Sunday And, no, visitors won't be allowed in for the behind-the-scenes look at the fairy minister.

—A.L.

Follow us on Twitter for the latest food gossip!  
Carla Karch (CarlaKarch) @carlakarch #vermont #eats



Cellars in Browne, Ed Schwartz hooked me up with his own choice, a 2008 Tegernseehof Riesling that he said would stand up well to both dishes. I also went home with a white Burgundy, as MacLean suggested. Schwartz's bacon choice was best in this case, but MacLean's viral picks worked almost as well. The downside is that she does not include Vermont wines.

### Best app for beer pairing

**CRAFT BEER APP (\$0.99)**

Finding an app that pairs 100 percent to Vermont's many microbrews is challenging. The app Beer Rating Guide (\$0.99) includes quite a few in the mix, but with only the most basic tasting notes from users (lovebeer.com). It is innovative and encouraging — with tips on judging aspect, taste, and body, as well as techniques such as how to



pull a perfect pint — but it only covers the bigger beers. Of the apps I tried, Craft Beer App came closest in being a guide to local beer; the multifaceted tasting and pairing app includes Harpoon, Long Trail, Otter Creek and Magic Hat. Oh, Vermont Brewers Association, why do you not just build your own app?

### Best app for cheese pairing

**FROMAGE (\$2.99)**

This is another crowded category, but not all cheese apps are created equal, and some have a Vermont variety on their lists. Fromage, however, includes several local cheeses among its tasting notes — Vermont Butter & Cheese Creamery, Brulee Roast, Cabot cheddar and Cobb Hill's Artisanary Mountain, among them.

The app offers fun pairing suggestions — though some border on the obscure. A super-Bacon Traiteur with Spring Brook's Twentysix Uno, OK Self. Fromage is a decent tool to have when navigating unfamiliar names at a cheese counter. ☐

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# Sweet Science

Dale Conoscenti calculates flavor at Burlington's Rhino Foods

BY ALICE LEVITT

**O**n his commute to Burlington's Rhino Foods, Dale Conoscenti has a mantra that plays on a loop in his head. He'll spend the day testing ice creams and confections at the factory he helped found in the 1980s. The words that seem to have stuck in his brain each morning are less appetizing: "Glucose and sucrose make fructose," he chimes. "Monosaccharides, fructose, galactose, glucose."

Sound like the inner workings of a classically trained chef? Hardly. But despite earning his degree from the New England Culinary Institute during the briefly French-influenced 1980s, Conoscenti is not your average classically trained chef.

Last week, he became the 76th professional to pass the International Research Chef Association's grueling test to become a certified research chef. That job title applies to cooks who carefully concoct and test food for fast-food chains and other food manufacturers. And Conoscenti is not the only one certified in Vermont; John Shaffer, a flavor guru at Ben & Jerry's, is the other.

Conoscenti, 53, also got his start in research and development at the Vermont ice cream superpower. Over eight years there, beginning in 1990, he developed flavors including Frost Park, Patisserie, Perfecto, Holy Cow!, and Lemon Yule! series. Through this and Jerry's, he designed the Newomer's Own ice cream brand, launching out ideas with its file-star power over games at pool at Newman's offices in Greenwich, Ct.

Conoscenti's passion for research began at Rhino Foods, the 14th job in his career, he says. Other stops on his wild ride included creating healthy gourmet breads at three schools in the 1990s, for which he garnered national press; and running his own critically acclaimed Manchester restaurant, Conoscenti, at the start of the millennium.

He left the annals of chef/ownership to take a job as corporate chef for the Indianapolis-based chain Steak 'n Shake. Next, Conoscenti created gourmet cookies in Boston at Biscuit Beer Baking. But the increasingly demanding schedule did not fit with his other job raising his daughter, now four



Left: Dale Conoscenti  
Right: Dale Conoscenti

and half. So, in 2008, Conoscenti joined Rhino Foods, which has allowed him to spend more time with his family—and, for the past two and a half years, to study for the research-chef certification. He would rise at 4 a.m., seven days a week, to crank out *Cooking: A Textbook of Culinary Fundamentals and Understanding Food Service Technology*.

This may sound like the habit of a lifelong science geek, but Conoscenti says that the subject had terrified him in school. "I avoided all the sciences as

much as I could," he admits. "I felt intimidated."

That changed at NECI, where Conoscenti realized he was a hands-on learner. "All of a sudden, science was different for me," he says. "I wasn't studying it out of a book. It was like being in a lab all the time."

Conoscenti had disseminated enough, and he began using science-complete formulas in his work developing new recipes and making nutritional labels for products.

Despite more than two decades working in the milieu of regulation and preservation, Conoscenti had failed the test twice before he recently aced the prepared exam at NECI. "There's a reason there are only 76 of us," he says, citing officials at the Research Chef Association.

The number will likely increase, according to Conoscenti. When it comes to making extremely distributed food, companies look for scientists with expertise not only in the principles of cooking and recipe development, but also in microbiology, heat transfer and packaging, he says.

All of these skills are applicable at Conoscenti's new ice cream flavor, particularly frozen custard and baked goods. Rhino Foods' branded products account for only a small portion of its business. The company's focus is on repackaging, which means creating, producing and, yes, packing products for other brands. Until recently, every Toll House chocolate-chip ice cream sandwich was made at Rhino's Industrial Parkway factory. So were Ben & Jerry's Witch指 sandwiches. Rhino still makes Hostess-like cream sandwiches.

Once done, the factory doors, which never close, reveal a hallway and sections the bottoms of their show in a rising staircase. Down the hall, the lab food office is labeled with a warning that not products are used there. While the warning doesn't stop it from every product made to kosher and subject to surprise visits from a local rabbi.

Today, Conoscenti and his part-time assistant, fellow Ben & Jerry's alum Bob Dougherty, have finally performed a grand-and-glorious soft-serve Chicago-style masterpiece: Frozen City Bakery.

They started the process in July when the company asked Conoscenti to create a cheesecake to its specifications. The single-serving dessert will be sold primarily at convenience stores, so ease was paramount. The cake needed no refrigeration, freezing, or shell; stable for 30 days to two weeks, be simple to eat without utensils, be sturdy but not cold—*and it had to taste good!*

More food after the classified section

## food

Consorti says they used the first 20 test batches to capture the desired taste. He sent milk samples to Prairie City executives to try with instant Bona so he knew to properly tailor the samples for optimal flavor. No matter what he did, though, the team wanted more cream cheese flavor. The problem was, cream cheese is just too soft for the desired consistency of the product. Ultimately, Consorti settled on a combination of powdered instant cream cheese and yogurt flavorings.

For 30 more batches, Consorti focused on getting the correct texture. Not only did the product have to feel good to the customer, it had to be sturdy enough to handle temperature changes, including blizzards of warm air with the opening and closing of the refrigerator door, without losing liquidity.

Prairie City approved both a plain and chocolate-covered version of the product, each of which is dressed with graham-cracker crumbles. They're firm enough to pick up, but have a creamy mouth feel and pleasant, yogurt-like tang. Once the folks at Bona master the productizing, which culminates a full-moon-shaped hole for easy eating without touching the food, the chexmix will be ready for sale. Prairie City has already ordered 50 cases.

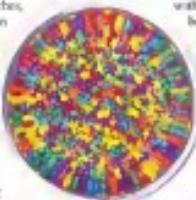
Consorti's job also includes selling products that companies don't even know they want. He grabs prints from one of the month's several banners to demonstrate: coconut cream pie with Rhinegeist's papaya juice and crushed shredded coconut, much-mashed muffins made with chewy banana bites, rich chocolate with "extreme brownie pieces." They're all delicious. Best of all is something Consorti calls "grape snap," which consists of ice cream, cookies and real grape; all submersed with a creamy caramel swirl. He created all of these flavors to present to the Kruger representation chain to present products to develop. No word from Bushman yet on whether fresh grape will soon be a house-desserting delight.

Another specialty ice cream adds in accounts for much of Consorti's work. Rhinegeist manufactures quite than 20 varieties of cookie dough flavor cream. That includes all of the favorites like Ben & Jerry's Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough flavor sold worldwide. The company even makes cookie dough for Dayton Bona. Consorti is tasked with making sure that the dough tastes great, despite its rigid, nitrogen-frozen state.

So, does it bother this chef with a classic French background to focus his energy on bakers and starches? Not really, says Consorti. Switching from the ultra-high-end ingredients at his own restaurant to fast food at Shake 'n Shake was a learning curve, he admits, but a positive one. At home, he follows a loosely macrobiotic diet, but he still believes there's room for unhealthy treats. "I don't have a problem cooking those kinds of foods," he says. "There's a place for everything I'm not a member as I used to be."

He also points out that science has made food healthier in unexpected ways. His favorite example: the ladylike enterprise "Microwaving." It's such a trigger for people it's just out of not knowing what a microwave is that they eat themselves," he says, shaking his head. "Microwave cooking is actually a form of steaming. It's the healthiest, most nutritious way to cook vegetables."

Consorti's professional intensity is on par with the speed of the words that pour from him as he describes his work. It's clear that, after all other job titles, "food scientist" turned out to be the perfect match. He even does it in his spare time, helping Doggett brands to optimize their production and packing at the Vermont Food Venture Center in Barre. "It's been a big wide world that opened up for me in food science," Consorti says. And the world can Bushman, one bite at a time. ☐



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**88 SIXTYFORTY-AMERICAN SCHOOL**, Atlanta ages 16-18. Students bring backpacks and pencils for a money off borrowing fee-hour. THIS MONTHLY CHARGE IS \$10.00 PER STUDENT. Sixtyfourty-fourty is located east of Highway 41, American 12th Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30303. Phone 404-525-4495.

## Comments

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**CHRISTIAN VAN TONK HETTINGA**, University of Amsterdam director of the Institute for Health and the Environment of Dutch Infectious Diseases, scientific research on the health effects of electromagnetic radiation, and founder/treasurer of a non-profit organization for environmental pollution in "Smart Meters".  
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### CONFIRMATION

**1800/1912 MURKIN'S FORUM:** Government officials, state politicians, donors, scholars, and community leaders gather with the selected pool of senior aging experts to craft solutions to make seniors safer in their homes. Chair: Dr. Verneice Carter, West Virginia University. 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Friday, June 14 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 205-8500 International Drive.

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**R&B SUPERHEROES** Just in time for  
Valentine's Day, a slate of soul artists—  
and funkier, more diverse ones—have collective  
titles like *Celestial Love*, *True Colors*, and *Heavenly  
Harmony*. And while the music may vary, it's all  
about love in its various forms. —D.J. VANCE

**SHOW HOME** You have two ways for a show dance in person or via video-organized behavioral sessions. Families participate in the video sessions. Adults provide info and can take a video themselves. Parents also receive info and more. Cost per video is \$10. Session is 45-60 minutes. SGI-supported donations info: 202-369-2523 ext 202 or 202-369-2524.

**INTERNATIONAL MOVIE NIGHT** The Civil War in China: *Naishi: Between Heaven & Earth* (Li Junxiang/Pan Hongwei). Louis Horstman's *POZ*-series. A Screening

**LIFE & LIBERTY** Starting from 8.30pm YouTube presentations featuring Keith Macdonald (8000 hours of raw footage in a battle against ignorance of life) naked (8th, California Arts Center, 30 January), 1.30pm & 8.30pm 54-TV (Tel: 26200).

**THE WHEELBLONER** When spending six months in Florida in 1974, photojournalist Ed Herdrich (played by Robert Wuhl) becomes a namesake for his long deceased dad, a reclusive landscaper. Drama. Cast: Robert Wuhl, Edie Falco, John Goodman. Rating: R. 87 min. \$19.98 (VHS). 2000.

For schedule-III and Schedule-IV, India 2013, MoDQ (v1a) 2013

**food & drink**  
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One Good Turn

The title of Paula Poundstone's 2006 memoir, *There's Nothing in This Book That I Want to Say*, could very well apply to her standup act. Not that the comedian, best known for her gigs on *NPR's* quiz show "Wait Wait... Don't Tell Me!," isn't in control of the show—it's just that she likes to improvise. A lot. Her off-the-spot humor is well, spot-on... whether she's preening on "The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson" or pulling audience members into spontaneous—and hilarious—conversations in restaurants and concert halls across the country. Poundstone may not know where the show is going, but it's headed to be a funny ride.

BRUNNEN

Friday, October 29, 8 p.m., at Barnes Opera House. \$10-34. Proceeds support the Friends of the Astoria Public Library. 1010-455-5188. [www.fopla.org](http://www.fopla.org)



OCT. 29 | MUSIC

## Instrumental Success

Best Vocal String Quartet is composed of the usual suspects – a cellist, a violinist and two violists. But the similarities in other string ensembles stop right there. For starters, the all-female foursome sing while they string, which can't be easy with an instrument wedged between your shoulder and you. They dance. They stamp. They squeeze. And they slant obscure works, preferring instead to look West African rhythmic to bluesy grooves to Afro-Brazilian jazz. Having recently been featured on *Verve's* *Mixtapes*, the San Francisco Bay Area band has earned a rep as the artist's "secret weapon," according to their employer. Well, the word's out now... and the quartet will take a bow in Vergennes on Saturday.

### REAL VOCAL STRING QUARTET

Saturday October 29, 8 p.m., at Vergennes Opera House, \$10-\$18; get half price tickets at deals.saturdayat.com with supplier code. Info: 877-470-7333; vergennesoperahouse.org

## Spin City

It's no sophomore. A whirl of bicyclists and spokes, mowers, and maniacal motorists wheeled its way through town last year, and the annual procession is back for the second annual Burlington Halloween Bike Ride. Cyclists, mowers, skateboarders and inline skaters may encapsulate as phantasmal creatures, but the costumed cyclists celebrate consciousness riding and driving with a "Shared Roots, Not Scared Roots" theme. Participants of all get paraded along a very free route made through downtown and the Old North End before winding down with hot drinks, crazy music and costume prizes at Magellan's. Sounds like something worth spinning for.

### BURLINGTON HALLOWEEN BIKE RIDE

Sunday October 30, costume competition judging begins at 7:30 p.m., ride departs at 2 p.m., at Burlington City Park. Post-ride party 3 to 5 p.m., at Magellan's in Burlington Free. Costumes encouraged. Info: 863-3824; burlinhalloween.org/halloween



OCT. 27-29 | ETC.

## Circle of Life

Governor Phil Scott knows his way around a car. In addition to his legislative work, the Bennington native has a history as – wait for it – a race-car driver at Thunder Road Speedway. In 2008, he took his new wheels and unwound the wheel – or, *Wheel for Warmth*, a benefit for Central Vermont Community Action Council's emergency and supplemental fuel-assistance programs. Let's break down this resolution: Tires donate used tires to the initiative. If they pass state inspection, those rubberers are ready for cheap. If not, they're taken off the roads and recycled for a small fee. All of the proceeds help Central Vermonters cut their heat bills this winter. So roll with it.

### WHEELS FOR WARMTH

Tire drop-off: Thursday October 27 and Friday October 28, 3 to 7 p.m., at Dalton Construction Inc. Headquarters, 100 State Traveler Station, and Events Center Management in Williston.

**Tire sale:** Saturday, Fair Haven, 10 a.m., at Dalton Construction Inc. Headquarters. The characters associated extra charge. Participants may receive \$4 tire recycling charge. \$25 minimum to buy each tire at the sale info: 823-5234; wheelforwarmthvt.com



PHOTO BY JEFFREY STONE

LUCILLE LAMBERT

KAREN KUEHN





# calendar

FEBRUARY 2013

artsarts: Chamberlain's Viking Experience: Events! January 26-27. \$17. Free for kids under 12. 800-885-0185. artsarts.org. Info: 815-546-0540.

film

**ONE DAY** After missing on the eve of their college graduation, Terence and Cecilia Joe Meeks' together and in love. That's what their parents give them. Set during a year of change, *One Day* is a coming-of-age and love story. California Arts Center, 500 University Dr., Emeryville. 7:30 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$12. 800-361-4716, 707-247-1116. TUE, FRI, SAT.

**TRAIT:** The school is required to offer higher-technology classes in 5-8. Classes 2013-2014 consist of age 14-17 students. California High School, 2000 University Dr., Emeryville. 7:30 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$12. 800-361-4716.

**BERKELEY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:** See page 86. TUE-SAT, 7:30-10 p.m.

food & drink

**CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES:** See page 98. TUE-WED.

**PHARAOH'S FOGGY FOOD FOR YOUR HEAD:** Chef Mattie Lee-Davis-Vietnam and son continue their family tradition of creating unique and delicious Asian-inspired dishes and desserts. Their menu includes soups, salads, stir-fries, and traditional Asian specialties. On the menu: a roasted-buttermilk quail egg; Mediterranean lamb and goat cheese tartlet; and more. Berling Living, South Emeryville, 5:30-8 p.m. \$5-\$7. Through Feb. 10. 800-885-0185.

health & fitness

**THE CAN-FIT MEMBERS:** The FAULTY Fun Circuit class. Tues. 6 p.m.

**REBORN 4.5 STRETCH & CORRECTIVE GLASS:** See page 86. TUE-SAT, 9:30-10 a.m.

holiday

**ANNUAL HALLOWEEN HOUSE:** The 10-hundred-foot-tall outdoor attraction at the Argonaut is open and haunted from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. daily through Oct. 31. \$15. Children: non-refundable food and entertainment. Recommended for teens and adults. 403 S. 1st St., 950-555-4454.

**SEASIDE CITY'S HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE:** Guests lurking everywhere down the block are here! This year's theme is "The Wizard of Oz." Adults: \$15. Children: \$10. Recommended for ages 10 and up. 4000 Seaside Dr., Suite 100, Seaside. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 831-624-6199.

**BENTONVILLE HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE:** Families can enjoy a variety of attractions including a haunted house, hayride, and more. 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**HALLOWEEN COSTUME BALL:** Hippie and flower power. Rock and roll. Punk rock. Gothic. And lots of partying! Get your tickets now! 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**KNOXVILLE HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE:** A night of frights and fun! Come to our Haunted House to meet the most frightening characters around! 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**MANHATTAN HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE:** Come to the Haunted House at Manhattan Square! 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**MATHEMATICS IN CRYPTOGRAPHY FEST:** An illustrated panel discussion presented by experts in Cryptology and Number Theory. Panelists include: Dr. Jennifer Doud, University of Florida; Dr. Kristin Lauter, Microsoft Corp.; Dr. Daniel M. Kane, University of Michigan. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-885-0185. artsarts.org. Info: 815-546-0540.

**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FEST:** An illustrated panel discussion presented by experts in Cryptology and Number Theory. Panelists include: Dr. Jennifer Doud, University of Florida; Dr. Kristin Lauter, Microsoft Corp.; Dr. Daniel M. Kane, University of Michigan. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-885-0185. artsarts.org. Info: 815-546-0540.

## THE DARKER SIDE OF HOME: MYSTERY

Local author and mystery novelist Linda Moulton Howes and her husband, Michael, will present a program for Bayou City Books, 209 Town Hall and University, Saturday at 10 a.m. Howes is the author of *Dead Men Tell Tales*. 12:30 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-218-2700. THE HAUNTED HOME FEST:

See page 70. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

adults

## ADMISSION CENTRAL: VENUS & HALLOWEEN

**DRINKS:** Adoration, Chateau Chantal, French Laundry, and the Rutherford Winery will all be serving special concoctions from 5-8 p.m. at the 10th-annual *Venus & Halloween* at the Rutherford Winery, 1000 Rutherford Rd., Napa. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$100.

## ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

**ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT:** A chamber music concert featuring the University Chamber Ensemble. 6 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-885-0185.

**CLUBS:** Club: *Wineheads*, writers and readers. 8:30 p.m. Sat., featuring the authors: Terri and Michael Livingston. 1000 S. Park Ave., Irvine. 701-232-3308.

**COMEDY IN THE PARKS:** Stories recommended for 10-year-olds and up. Storytellers: Jim and Anna. Stories recommended for 10-12s: Jim and Anna. Stories recommended for 13-18s: Jim and Anna. 10 a.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10.

**DRUGSTORE HALLOWEEN HORROR:** Fighting over cheap Up-For-Grabs and non-refundable items. 10 a.m. Saturday. Public Library, 100 S. 1st St., Fremont. 10:30 a.m.-11:30 p.m.

**HARVEST CAROUSEL:** 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Children can make their own harvest wreath and string pumpkins. Tassajara Zen Mountain Center, 1000 Tassajara Rd., Ojai. 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10.

**KIDS' MEETUP:** 11 a.m. Enjoy being a superhero! Meet Tom McGrath, 2010 animation Oscar nominee (Meet the Robinsons). Soundstage Playhouse, 511 S. Reservoir Rd., Studio City. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10.

**MONSTERBREW: HALLOWEEN TEA:** Professional brewster artisans introduce strong teas. Monastery Community School, 1000 S. Park Ave., Irvine. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10.

**OBSTACLES:** 11 a.m. Enjoy being a superhero! Meet Tom McGrath, 2010 animation Oscar nominee (Meet the Robinsons). Soundstage Playhouse, 511 S. Reservoir Rd., Studio City. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10.

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**TEA & TALK:** 10 a.m. Enjoy being a superhero! Meet Tom McGrath, 2010 animation Oscar nominee (Meet the Robinsons). Soundstage Playhouse, 511 S. Reservoir Rd., Studio City. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10.

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**CHRISTIAN TEEFLY & LAKE WEST:** A Christian rock band that has been touring the country since 2007 and connecting with people at the heart of the Christian community. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$15. 800-548-2600.

**HALLOWEEN COSTUME BALL:** Hippie and flower power. Rock and roll. Punk rock. Gothic. And lots of partying! Get your tickets now! 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**HAUNTED HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE:** A night of frights and fun! Come to our Haunted House to meet the most frightening characters around! 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**KNOXVILLE HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE:** A night of frights and fun! Come to our Haunted House to meet the most frightening characters around! 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**MANHATTAN HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE:** Come to the Haunted House at Manhattan Square! 1000 W. Bentonville Rd., Bentonville. 7:30 p.m.-midnight. 479-274-6199.

**MATHEMATICS IN CRYPTOGRAPHY FEST:** An illustrated panel discussion presented by experts in Cryptology and Number Theory. Panelists include: Dr. Jennifer Doud, University of Florida; Dr. Kristin Lauter, Microsoft Corp.; Dr. Daniel M. Kane, University of Michigan. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-885-0185.

**MECHANICAL ENGINEERING FEST:** An illustrated panel discussion presented by experts in Cryptology and Number Theory. Panelists include: Dr. Jennifer Doud, University of Florida; Dr. Kristin Lauter, Microsoft Corp.; Dr. Daniel M. Kane, University of Michigan. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-885-0185.

WOMEN, WOMEN, WOMEN: Comedy Masters Show 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-885-0185.

**THE RED EARTH & BURNT:** Some of the city's best-known performers have hit the stage and received a standing ovation at amateur and amateur popular music (any genre) contest. League: Sculptor Resort, Redwood City. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-218-2700.

## THE BIGGEST CO-HABITANT PARTY:

Local author Linda Moulton Howes and her husband, Michael, will present a program for Bayou City Books, 209 Town Hall and University, Saturday at 10 a.m. Howes is the author of *Dead Men Tell Tales*. 12:30 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-218-2700.

**THE CO-HABITANT PARTY:** See page 70. 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

**WINE & CHOCOLATE:** The wine and chocolate tasting event at the Hotel Indigo. 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-885-0185.

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## SAT. 2/23

events

**ANNE LANTER-NAGEL IN BURGUNDY:** Some of the city's best-known performers have hit the stage and received a standing ovation at amateur and amateur popular music (any genre) contest. League: Sculptor Resort, Redwood City. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-218-2700.

**BIG BANG-CAIN IN DEMOCRATIC:** Violinist and composer for orchestra Cain and his ensemble. 7 p.m. Sat., Feb. 23. \$10. 800-218-2700.

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# music

## Late Bloomer

Songwriter Steven Leibman finally paints his masterpiece BY MATT BUSHLEM

**D**

o you know Ry Cooder was 23 when he did their first album? Twenty-fucking-those!"

Steven Leibman is seated across the table in the study/dining room of the Daily Planet in Burlington. His buddy Brett Hughes, a sexed-out trout in tinsel, the local country-music outlaw is all charming smiles, clad in stylized Ray-Bans and a green-and-white maverick cap. Leibman isn't looking at Hughes. He asks his question to the air, marveling at how someone so young could possess Cooder's uncanny brilliance on the electric guitar.

It's natural for Leibman to have age on his mind. The 48-year-old just completed his first album, *I Know They're There*, after decades of writing and fake-stuffing.

With his neatly trimmed salt-and-pepper beard, wire-rim glasses, and glint of club socks, Leibman could be the poster boy for every artist who took a day job to pay the bills and start a family — and then struggled to get back to his art. Though most folks never make a late-period album — or finish that novel — with the release of *I Know They're There*, Leibman has chased down his dreams and made it real.

As for the writing, he pauses before answering. "It was now or never," Leibman says, with a dark chuckle. His eyes sparkling, "I could feel the deep dead in my marrow."

He's only sort of joking. In December 2003, Leibman went under the knife for what he calls "unexpected" quadruple-lung surgery.

Just a few months earlier, he had embarked on a new search to find the right partner to help him make his first album. Leibman has a decades-long history of recording demos and one-off songs in studios from Los Angeles to Montreal. But never an entire album. In his mind, he'd never been able to find the right musical collaborator.

As recently as 2003, Leibman was led with a tuner at Montreal's Hotel D'Yangu studio to record a one-song "test" of his song "I Know They're There," with the

intention of working on an LP. Though he says the experience was "wonderful," it didn't continue past the one song. The reason?

"Creative differences," he says.

Enter Brett Hughes, recommended to Leibman by mutual friend and indie keyboardist/singer Amanda Gutterson. Hughes had, in late 2006, just come off recording sessions for Surprise Me Mr. Davis, the constantly touring rock quartet built around the songwriting talents of Virginian Nathan Moore and Brad Barr of Montreal. After Leibman heard that band's demo — plus Hughes' recordings of his own — in Montréal, and his composing and arranging work for television — it was clear he had found his man.

But something deeper bonded the two musicians:

"It was a remarkably spiritual experience that we met," says Leibman. "Right off with Brett, our sensibilities, the lead-out, the metaphors, the movie references, the literature references ... We were in sync right away. It was just it happened."

After working for more than a year to recover from his surgery and some post-op vocal injuries, Leibman headed with Hughes on his barn-apartment-chair-studio, Montréal Arts + Sciences. There they labored on and off for nearly 12 months to craft Leibman's personal masterpiece.

The songwriter readily admits that the down-tuned *I Know They're There* was influenced after Randy Newman's classic 1970 album, *12 Songs*. Like Newman, Leibman uses first-person, character-driven narratives and a variety of musical styles that always serve the album as a whole.

As Hughes matches calanques and sips a glass of the Sheld's House wine, Leibman explains that the Newman reference is in line with a few basic principles the two agreed upon at the project's outset. One album had to be about the songs. And these songs had to serve the greater narrative and flow of the album. And, within each song, the words had to be mixed up front.

"We were referencing music from all different eras," Hughes explains. "But



STEVEN LEIBMAN

what we kept going back to was '70s and '80s singer-songwriter things, especially Dylan records, where the vocal is right up there."

"After all," Hughes lays out in his dignified status dress with a smile, "The vocal is the song."

And it shows. Throughout *I Know They're There*, Leibman's — the narrator's — voice is high in the mix, leading the listener through tales of lust, nostalgia, love, loss, broken people — tales of sketchy characters and sometimes dexterous situations. His vocals are clear and powerful, with a soulful vibrato on the low notes and a slightly weathered, honest feel like it's a voice on par with that of early Newman, or Warren Zevon, and reveals the yearning and depth of Springsteen's epic albums from the '80s.

And then there are the arrangements.

Leibman and Hughes surrounded the vocals with an absolute musical dream team — and a deep band. For fun of the Burlington music scene, reading the liner notes while listening to the album can elicit a constant stream of "whoa" and "whoa." Veterans such as bassist Rob Morris, keyboardist Ray Facciatoni and electric guitarist Mark Spencer form the

backbone of several tracks. Brett Landre sagged with a few tunes on pedal steel. There's Marc Glavin plucking the banjo, and who knew Tyler Bellas plays bassoon? (Seriously.) Then there are string players, including violinist Anne Staender, violist Paul Reynolds and cellist Michael Holton. And when Johnnie Day Dernell's singing saw she shuns up in the static arrangement as the strings, one can't help but wonder who put that whole thing together.

*I Know They're There* is constantly upstaging like that. And yet there are moments of novelty. All that talent adds heart and soul to each song — only where it's needed. The string section, French horn, tuba, vibraphone, xylophone — even the old Edison cylinder recording of Italian tenor Enrico Caruso — all serve Leibman's songs in a way that few producers could pull off. It's the most giddy, infectious production essay recorded by two middle-aged guys in a small, makeshift studio in Burlington, better late than never. ☐

**B** Now: *I Know They're There* by Steven Leibman. Available from [stevenleibman.com](http://stevenleibman.com) (CD) and [iTunes.com](http://iTunes.com).

# SOUNDbites

BY DAN BELLIS

## Halloweentown

Oh, I do love some Halloween. It is, without question, my absolute favorite holiday. Unlike Christmas or Easter, there are no religious overtones — quite the opposite, in fact! Unlike Thanksgiving — my second favorite holiday — there are no family obligations. (Note: to my family, love you!) Unlike Independence Day, there is no forced patriotism. And, unlike St. Patrick's, I actually know what Halloween is. Halloween is simple. It's fun. It's giddy. These's candy. What's not to love?

If there is one drawback to Halloweentown, it's that coming up with a good costume can be a challenge, especially if, like me, you put no thought into it whatsoever until the last minute. And with so much entertainment on the docket for the upcoming Halloweentown weekend, it's important to dress the part. Of course, you could go the standard college-town route. Take an otherwise innocuous outfit — monk, priest, cog, nurse, etc. — and make it scary. But you're better than that, right? So what follows are some of the more interesting Halloweentown-themed options this week. And because our goal at Seven Days is to entertain and educate, we're including costume suggestions for each show. You're welcome. And happy Halloweentown!

Perhaps you've heard that renowned leyendario MARIS MARENKOVA has been thrilling Radio City crowds these past few weeks during her ongoing residency. Well, in addition to his Friday-night sets at our favorite cozy liquor lounge, he's also got a fascinating show coming up this Saturday, October 29, at the FlynnSpace. Marenko's trio is performing an original score he composed to ROBERT DEERLY's 1930 film adaptation of Edgar Allan Poe's "The Fall of the House of Usher," starring YVONNE PRICE. Beneath the moodily somber walls, a new layer of classical complexity to Connors' cult classic. (Connors' suggestion: hip-hop reggaebro. Alternate suggestion: shiny Usher.)

Sticking with the FlynnSpace, this Friday, October 28, local gypsy-jazz ensemble TWO BLOWS AND A BLOWDOWN will celebrate the release of their new self-titled record with a 10:30pm-style costume party in the versatile basement theater. French-style swing has seen a



Trio Ganta and Mike Martin

renaissance. In Vermont in recent years, as a number of talented bands have emerged in our collector hunger for musicology. However, Trio Ganta stand-out for their progressive approach to the genre and a willingness to not be bound by hallowed conventions. Their repertoire spans a variety of terrains, from SERGE GAINSBOURG-styled French lounge to BOURGEOIS BRAZILIAN-inspired chanson and even a touch of COLD PORTRAIT for good measure. But what makes Ganta unique is the pairing of MIKE MARTIN'S jazzy BACK & FOREGROUNDS and Telecenter guitar and JEFFREY KIRK'S shaggy rhombus. As vocal and acoustic guitarist Martin describes it in a recent email they bout a "Tygrré-en-George Negar" sound. Sold. In addition to their original material, Martin writes that the band is reworking a few genre standards, which is nice in a gypsy cover. Oh, and the lovely ladies of THE PHILADELPHIA SPARK will serve as usher for the evening. So there's that. (Connors' suggestion: gipsy minstrel. Alternate suggestion: shiny Usher.)

Meanwhile, in Montpelier, the main event is rapidly approaching with '80s New Wave revolutionaries HOT MESS MAGIC at the Black Door on Saturday, October 29. This one's pretty self-explanatory. Just dress in anything remotely '80s, which is inherently kind of shiny. Done and done.

Halloweentown falls on a Monday this year, which puts a damper on specialty shenanigans October 31. But that doesn't mean there isn't any hell to be

raised that night. And who better to lead the party than the cool kids from DJ collective BORN TO HIT? The crew takes over the Blue Room at Red Square on Monday, October 31, for an eye-music master mix (big). Also, I'm told no mask will dress like a leopard. Rover! (Connors' suggestion: not a leopard. Alternate suggestion: um ... a cheetah?)

What better way to celebrate All Hallow's Eve than by raising the dead? After a soulshaking layout, Metal Monday at Neptune's is resurrected this week, high-flying (how'd that go?) by what will unfortunately be the final performance of MM's co-founder VERNON FREEMAN — a solo project of LEMMY & MATT HAGEN. FYI, The band is losing its guitars, GENE SIMMONS, who is moving to Florida. However, Neptune arranged to record a new album, which should find our eager ears soon. Also on the Halloweentown Metal Monday bill: ABIGAIL and BOUL THE WORM. (Connors' suggestion: Metal Monday mostly kinda looks like Halloweentown anyway, no dress like Lemmy! Alternate suggestion: shiny Lemmy.)

## BiteTorrent

Happy birthday, Radio Bem! It's hard to believe, but the Burlington-based station turns it up to 11 this year. When does the party end? The jam-jam will host an annual one-night birthday bash this Saturday, October 29. The lineup features just about every friggle-bend in town. And free coffee.

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# SOUNDbites

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 33

Big things in Montpelier this Friday, December 26, as acclaimed folk-punk trio the **MYLES MARES THREE** come to town to play "Stomp and Stroll" at the Vermont College of Fine Arts gymnasium to benefit the Vermont Community Foundation's Disaster Relief for Farmers Fund. DMH are also celebrating the release of their new live album called *Steep & Steaky* — get it! — which hit shelves on Tuesday, October 28. Also on the bill, honky-tonk Vermonters the **MOUNTAIN MEN** and musical Vermonters **WILDEEN AND SAWL**. Speaking of W&S, the in-the-loft outfit is fresh from an appearance with the **LOW ANTHILL** and **APE PAR** in New Hampshire last week, and are nailing completion of a new record. That will be released on their own label and may be pressed vinyl.

Speaking of new releases, Paul will the boys from **RAVE** have been holed up in the Cave of Legends, hard at work on their next record. No word on when it might be done, but Paul's **IRON HAMMER** version that the band has been chugging out final mixes. Stay tuned.

**Band News of the Week: SPIT JACK** This local punk outfit is quickly gaining a rep as the baddest band in the land, having been kicked off of two Vermont venues in recent months for some unruly behavior. Will they go for the hat trick?



when they play Manhattan Pizza & Pub in Burlington this Saturday, October 29. I have no idea. But it might be worth attending to find out. And if they are hoisted, at least two other solid bands see on the bill: **IRISH**, who describe themselves as "struggling against the current of good vibes and happy happenings" in Burlington with a simple message of "irreverent violence and absolute debauchery"; and the Queen City's sons of **BLOND, BRONX FRAMES**, who reportedly have a full-length in the works for the new year. By the way,

Spit Jack also have a new EP on deck, **Whistley Eyes**, due for a December release. Any bets we'll still have them at that point, they might even have a release show. Fingers crossed.

Last but not least, safe travels to **KARABANDHARA**, aka **THOMASINE**, who takes off on a lengthy national tour next week with **MICHAEL COLLINS** (a.k.a. **PRINCE RAMA**). Before she goes, the lo-fi electronica titan plays a four-kickoff show this Friday at the BCA Center in Burlington with Collin's son of **SALAMI** and **DRONE MATES**. ☺



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# REVIEW *this*



## Tommy Alexander, *Maybe One Day*

(PRES RELEASED BY DIGITAL SORRY ONE)

The title of Tommy Alexander's latest recording, *Maybe One Day*, reveals much about the local "basement act" songwriter. The 10 songs presented by this California-born and Brattleboro-based maverick bristle with cautious optimism. But it's tempered by a palpable yearning, a sense of fractured resilience and an unforced wistfulness. Through a charming stream-of-conscious acoustic guitar and voice chambers, Alexander plays the part of the wounded troubadour, delivering an intense and emotionally vulnerable treatment on loss, life and loss and the dark, quiet corners where they intersect.

Alexander is a gifted guitarist, blessed with nimble fingers, yet refreshingly he doesn't overplay his lissome electric clean and clear. And when they're raw, they're richly textured and rugged. The shambolic coverart title is not an such example. His lightly pickled, rippling progression is pretty but it carries a forbidding undercurrent. Bleeding, disconcerting strokes from the scrabbling numismatist that follow.

As a lyricist, Alexander is less verbal but no less effective. His verbal turns are generally brazen and straightforward, characterized more by direct emoting than metaphoric wordplay — though he does a fine chose allegorical suggest here and there. Alexander seems taken with the likes of Bon Iver, particularly emotional and spiritual. A very exposition of twenty-something spunk, "Dear Foster" is the most explicit example. Here,

Alexander pleads, "And so we will the weighted grift and let the sun become our star / And so we talk all those padded words, though you'll never understand / That this train takes a lonely road, it rolls on and on and on." Actually, the train probably takes a lonely track, but well.

Even in lesser lyrical measures, Alexander is effective through sheer force of personality. His voice — which at times resembles the fractured, shaky croak of a young Carter Sherer — bursts with raw, emotional energy. Alexander's performance is often dramatic and florid but never overbearing or melodramatic. His songs are intimate and emotionally honest, not pandering. It's a fine line that Alexander walks confidently. That border very well for his future endorers and suggest to his "one day" in another chapter than he thinks.

*Maybe One Day* by Tommy

Alexander is available at [tommyalexander.com](http://tommyalexander.com). He plays Radio Kipp in Burlington this Friday, October 28.

DAN ROLLES

## Chamberlin, *Cabin Covers EP*

(MINT CULL RECORDS/DIGITAL DOWNLOAD)

Cover songs present an interesting artistic opportunity in that they offer the chance to hear established songs in a new light. For example, take Ben Hagg's version of "Your Love" by the Dixie Chicks. In Justin Vernon's hands — or rather his wounded bluesies — the song feels darker and more emotionally exposed. He lapides the tune's almost unending undercurrent of sexual yearning that the poppy arrangement of the 1998 original somewhat obscures. But trying with another artist's intellectual property can also pose significant risks. In the wrong hands, the results can be disastrous (cf. Steppen Wolf the Rudy's shameless daughter of the Louie classic, "There She Goes").

The key seems to be maintaining the integrity of the source material while simultaneously imbuing the new version with a fresh perspective. Local rockers Chamberlin do just that on an intriguing new collection of cover songs, *Cabin Covers EP*.

And speaking of Bon Iver, the EP gets off to an auspicious start with "Lust in the Snow." The song is a take on a Kanye West take-on Bon Iver's "Woods" that made the former much a couple of years ago. Taking

on the tune's midtempo, a cappella intro is reminiscent, to say the least, but Chamberlin struggle to do it justice. They can't quite capture the plangent tone as natural, eschewing the sweet AutoTune that Vernon employs to such unique effect on the original. However, while they mix the arrangement, they're often frustratingly off-key. Fortunately, these issues are resolved once the band members strip on guitars. The remainder of the tune is a clever adaptation of West's version and sets the stage for what comes next.

The band's version of "Little Secret" by Fazerdave — originally released last year as a bonus track to their full-length debut, *Blister Blood* — is striking in the (bold) turn the tune from dreary electro-pop into a sweetly brooding, a-ha-esque tune. "Go Outside" by Coldplay takes on an almost classic Radiohead feel, which is a far cry from that tune's original sing-song electro-ribb. You can



Weekend's synth-pop acme "Giving Up the Gun" is turned forward into a loping, alt-country weeper. And EP closer "Trapped Up High" by Foster the People, almost sounds as though it was meant to be another chamber pop kind of a grungy indie-dance track.

On these *Cabin Covers EP*, Chamberlin offers a collection of material that stands on its own simply as a great listen. But what makes this collection remarkable is the sensitivity paid to the source material and the ensuing ingenuity with which the band personalizes the new versions. It's quite an achievement, and one of the most enjoyable collections of "cover" music you're apt to hear this year.

*Cabin Covers EP* is available at [chamberlinband.com](http://chamberlinband.com). All proceeds from sales of the EP go to Irene flood-relief efforts in Vermont.

DAN ROLLES



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# Home Work

Andrew Raftery, Fleming Museum of Art

**V**isitors seeking color and pop might pass on Andrew Raftery's exhibit in the Fleming Museum of Art's Rauz Gallery ... and decide to give it a pass. After all, there is plenty of pleasure to be found in the African paintings of Wissous World (most from the Marke Collection). But that would be a shame. Because, even if Raftery favors nature (black and white), and his show evinces a centuries-old medium — copperplate engraving — viewers who take the time to really look will find themselves captivated. There is a lot more to mean the curvaceous grace in the five-part print series called "Open House." These are quietly astonishing achievements of technique, social observation and, not least, patience.

Raftery's vision is utterly unique. The professor of printmaking at the Rhode Island School of Design uses an exciting, eccentric process, and tools to print scenes of lifelets of the 17th and 18th centuries, while expressing fully contemporary concepts — in this case narratives based on that staple of real estate, the open house. In a slide lecture at the museum's last week, Raftery explained that the inspiration for this series, completed in 2009, was taking his mother house hunting. Art historian Jonathan Weinberg, in his essay for the exhibition catalog, notes "an enormous gift" he possess: the intensity of effort expended on the process and the banality of the subject matter.

And yet, this quotidian activity is inherently laden with richer meanings: the evaluation of buyers, sellers and real estate agents; the material goods in the houses that tell stories about consumerism, values, taste and status. (An apt metaphor here: a Sub-Zero



"Open House" (detail)



Giclee model for "Open House"

## THESE ARE QUIETLY ASTONISHING ACHIEVEMENTS OF TECHNIQUE, SOCIAL OBSERVATION AND, NOT LEAST, PATIENCE.

fridge there), the concept of home itself. For that matter, there are layered connotations in the word "open." There is vice versa. And there is the temporal backdrop of the housing market — at a stretch when Raftery worked on this series, six months now.

Moreover, the artist wonders about the relationships of the figures he places in his scenes. Who among these men and women are married to each other? Is there tension between them? Do the two pairs of different-skinned men share in the bedroom singly or a gay couple? What's bally in the P? How do these individuals view each other?

The artist had plenty of time to mosey on all these considerations;

"Open House" set two years in conception, four years in the making. Along the way, Raftery created architectural and figure models — small, made-to-measure of wax, gessoed white — and numerous, increasingly elaborate drawings of his scenes before even setting bams to copperplate. Fleming curator Steven Marlowe told him that decision to include these meticulous preparatory steps in the exhibit was inspired. Raftery admitted at his talk that he had not thought of his models and studies as "art." His mother, who is also an artist, disagreed, and so did Delia Rodin. Each of these stages reveals a gifted hand, and such a masterly beatitude. They are also educational,

providing a rare glimpse into an artist's mind and methods. That's what art is an academic exercise.

Seeing witness to Raftery's painstaking process has a more elemental advantage: it helps one truly appreciate his masterful engravings. To think about "flow" as well as "what." Today's viewers might need reminding that, in engraving, every single line is made by hand, and each bears the heavy responsibility of precision. The relative weight and placement of lines create patterns, form, light, shadow, expression — meaning. And, imagine it: There is no digital button for mistakes.

In his essay Weinberg notes that Raftery's process is an incarnation of Old Master prints, layer by layer, deconstructed and measurable, that thereby suggests "how much in depth post-modern modes of conception and appropriation as it does with the history of engraving." It also has to do with the artist's predilections: Raftery said he is capable of focusing on one thing for a long time without growing tired of it. "I really like making things with my hands and making objects that are very highly wrought," he explained. "That is why I am so drawn to engraving."

In an age of throwaway, printed materials and instant reproducibility, that alone is worth slowing down to admire. ☐

PAMELA FOLSTON

Andrew Raftery's "Openhouse" Printing Museum, 419 Main Street,通过  
Curator K. Pennington@um.edu

## ONGOING

### Burlington area

**ARTIST GALLERIES** Burlington City ArtWalk: An opportunity to see a variety of artwork by area artists. October 27 through November 28 at High Voltage (one block back) 300 South St. in Burlington. Info: 802-860-3857.

**ARTIST Raftery**: From an interview of the North American artist Association. Through October 27 at Arts Were Made Here in Burlington. Info: 802-960-8888.

### AIA 100+ REGIONAL JUNIOR STAFF WINNERS

**EXHIBIT**: "Work by Victoria Hargrove, Jordan Harkness, Christopher Jones, Adrienne Josette, Matthew and Courtney Leggerty, Through October 28 at the Vermont Center for the Arts, 1000 Main St., Montpelier. Info: 802-229-2820.

**CASEY, CHURCHMAN & BALEN SPRINGS**: "The Casey, U.S.A. 2010: A Celebration of Art and Natural Objects" is on view at Vermont Woods Studio in Woodstock. Info: 802-457-1460.

### CHUCK HARRIS/THE ELLIS GROUP

What transformed acrylics on found metal, mosaics and sculptures by local artists. Through November 17 at the Fletcher-McCormick Building, 1000 Main St., Montpelier. Info: 802-229-2820.

**GRACE FORTIN**: Introduces new prints, monoprints and collages. Through November 28 at Winter Journals in Burlington. Info: 802-863-6002.

**JOEL LINDEN**: "Goliath's War" works inspired by the depths of Lake Champlain and the City of the Dead. Through November 28 at the Daily Pointe in Burlington. Info: 802-860-3100.

### VISUAL ART IN SEVEN DAYS

With coverage and reviews written by HELEN ANNE STUSSMAN, ALICE TAYLOR, JEFF TAYLOR, and ROBERT POLKOWSKI. EXCEPTIONAL PRINTS BY MARY AT THE END OF THE LINE ON 101

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# The Old Testament



**JEFF LOO** is a teacher for the Center for Cartoon Studies grad students who creates the *Funny Menagerie* art anthology and blog [funnymenagerie.com](http://funnymenagerie.com), and is an illustrator with all his *Buddy Friends* and *Bunnies* books found through [buddyfriends.com](http://buddyfriends.com).



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Exhibit until Jan. 1. \$100.  
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October 23. Info: [vtartcenter.org](http://vtartcenter.org) and  
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Chamber Gallery Burlington  
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**GENEVA PARKS** | **Openings** | **Paintings** that  
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Artwork on Green Mountain stage in Montpelier.  
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**VERMONT ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS** | **OPEN CALL** for the  
Academy's 2010-2011 season. Details at [vta.org](http://vta.org).  
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Academy's 2010-2011 season. Details at [vta.org](http://vta.org).  
Info: 802-860-2200.

**PAINTERS & SCULPTORS FOUNDATION** | **OPEN CALL** for the  
Vermont Artists Commission art group. Through November  
1 at Krause Gallery in Montpelier. Info: 802-256-6620.

**PAINTERS & SCULPTORS FOUNDATION** | **OPEN CALL** for the  
Vermont Artists Commission art group. Through November  
1 at Krause Gallery in Montpelier. Info: 802-256-6620.

**BOOK SALE & BAKE SALE** | **OPEN CALL** for the  
Montpelier Art Center. Details at [montpelierartcenter.org](http://montpelierartcenter.org).  
Info: 802-223-1100.

**THE BODY MUSEUM OFF THE WALL** | **OPEN CALL** for the  
Body Museum Off the Wall. Details at [bodymuseumoffthewall.com](http://bodymuseumoffthewall.com).  
Info: 802-860-5111.

**ARTISTS' EXCHANGE** | **OPEN CALL** for the Vermont  
Artists' Exchange. Details at [vtartists.org](http://vtartists.org).  
Info: 802-860-5111.

**CHRIS ANNISTON** | **OPEN CALL** for the *Chris Anniston*  
Photo Competition. Details at [chrisanniston.com](http://chrisanniston.com).  
Info: 802-860-5111.

GENERAL VANTAGE SHOWERS DE PEE

## END OF SEASON MARKDOWN SALE

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West African Music,  
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Burlington City Hall

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Sat, Oct. 26 at 8pm  
Sat, Nov. 5 at 8pm



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**WHO CARES?** Artwork inspired by the surveillance produced by AT&T's Prism program will be shown at the Memphis Art Center, 100 South Main St., Memphis, until Sept. 13. A portion of all sales and contributions will provide surveillance equipment and support to the surveillance efforts of the Memphis-based Privacy Project. Tel: 901/682-6000.

### champagne coffee

**ANNEKE HOOG & ANTHONY BURG**. Prints, art photographs and art-in-objects are installed at the Glass of 30, 701 N. Wolfe St., through Dec. 12. Tel: 414/273-1882.

**BADGELESS AT THE RAINBOW CATTLE CO.: THE BRAID SISTERS OF NEW HAVEN, VERMONT**

Folklorist Connie and her twin daughters, along with the pleasure of a few other women, come with the pleasure of a few other women, along with the pleasure of documenting the lives of the Rainbow Cattle Co. It's just the co. as it stands. Tel: 802/545-7700. Tel: 802/545-7700.

**JOAN QUARTZ**. Weathered, colorful panels showing what comes up the earth that inspired thinking places. Through November 21. Tel: 603/865-4500.

**AN FRANCY**. Structures, drawings of Vermont, and a book of poems. Through Nov. 15. Tel: 802/860-3300.

**KELLY PRICE**. Pastel, fabric, fabric collages.

Photographs of the Midwest region by the director of the quarry. Through October 30 at Hollister's Artistic Center, 100 South Main St., Hollister, Calif. Tel: 800/322-8222.

**CECILIA SHAPIRO**. Acrylic & colored charcoal. 10 drawings, 10 prints, 10 small drawings. Through Oct. 25. Tel: 414/937-1700. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**ENDURING TRADITION: THE ART OF MEMORIALS**  
**FRESH MARKET VARIOUS**. Hand-forged iron art and more in installations of traditional country patches and tile. Many of them are items that have been passed down through the family. To the early 20th century. Through November 12. Tel: 414/937-1700. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**HOW DO I REACH YOU?** An exhibition featuring work by the students of the School of the Visual Arts in New York City at the Library of Congress. Through December 15. Tel: 202/700-0410. Tel: 202/700-0410.

**ICONIC ILLUMINATED HANDBLANTS**  
**BRUNNEN GROUP**. Glowing icon imagery arranged in illuminated handblants by Bruno Janssen. Website: [www.brunnen.com](http://www.brunnen.com). Tel: 414/273-1882.

**E.L. BARNHARD HABER**. Acrylic on panelings. Through October 21. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**JOAN QUARTZ**. Weathered, colorful panels showing what comes up the earth that inspired thinking places. Through November 21. Tel: 603/865-4500.

**AN FRANCY**. Structures, drawings of Vermont, and a book of poems. Through Nov. 15. Tel: 802/860-3300.

**KELLY PRICE**. Pastel, fabric, fabric collages. Photographs of the Midwest region by the director of the quarry. Through October 30 at Hollister's Artistic Center, 100 South Main St., Hollister, Calif. Tel: 800/322-8222.

**KRISTA CHERNEY & JUSTIN MINTON**. "No Effect," 100 prints, 100 drawings. Through November 21. Tel: 414/937-1700. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**LIN MARSH**. Works on the wall that emphasize her ear's form and reflective surfaces. She's white figures abstract. Through November 21. Tel: 414/937-1700. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**NOAH KURT BLACK**. "The Money Chamber," an 8x10 in hand-illustrated. PHOTOGRAPHIC INVESTIGATIONS. Installation of a separation of all ages. Through November 15. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**TRISH HERMAN**. Glowing water. Crystal structures were fully accented as depicted in ice cubes, watercolor and oil on canvas. Through November 30. Tel: 414/937-1700.

### ENTERTAINERS

**ALAN PARKER**. A night of interactive stories, songs and games of memory, loss and through October 21 at Third Stage Community Theater. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**MARINA FRIESEN-MILLER**. "Creative Thinking," work on the floor featuring numerous items of his childhood. Through November 12. Tel: 414/937-1700. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**JOANNA IN VENICE**. Works by JoAnna & Associates. Website: [www.joanna-and-thomas.com](http://www.joanna-and-thomas.com). Tel: 414/937-1700.

**SARAY FERRINI**. "Transitions," paintings created by the artist about a year since at Penobscot Farm. Through October 20. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**SARAH WAGNER**. "Gardening Unleashed" — Something green, red and white to go off. Through September 20 at Cross-Hatch Fine Art Gallery. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**EDWARD ABRAHAMSON**. One-Summer Artists. Website: [www.edward-abrahamson.com](http://www.edward-abrahamson.com). Tel: 414/937-1700. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**CHRISTIAN ENRIGHT CHUNG**. "Crossing Horizons," portraits, 10x10 feet and landscapes by the Vermont painter. Tel: 802/865-4500. Through November 7 at River Arts Center, Middlebury, Vt. Tel: 802/865-4500.

**MARK DAVIS**. Postage and drawings that explore the singular myth in memory and mind. Through November 15 at Blazing Thread Books & Journal. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**SATYRAS HABIN**. Music and moonlight, works by Satyras Habin. Through November 15. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**GAL MAYERI**. Color batik, batik art, silk batik. Prints, 24x36 inches each. Installation on a page from a printed catalog that shows the colors of the sea. Through October 21. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**JEROME PLEIN AIR FESTIVAL GALLERY**. Works painted at Walker Evans' and the National Park Service's 100th anniversary. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**KEN LEECH**. "Our Town," artwork featuring some friends. Also "Ghosts" — 10x10 feet and others. Tel: 414/937-1700. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**MONIQUE MUSILEK/MARY MUSILEK AND CELIA LIPSTEIN**. Two artist exhibitions on the 10th anniversary of the death of Monique Musilek. Coffins, charred remains of coffins and the funeral industry's changing role and living choices during a lifetime. Through November 21. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**WILTON ARTISTS GAIL GRIBET & SALLY**. Work by guest members. Tel: 414/937-1700.



## Lorraine Reynolds

The found objects that make up Reynolds' assemblages are mundane, broken dolls, a yellowed page from an anatomy book, a wooden box, but the Reynolds is skilled arranging them, the pieces become portals to past lives. A fashion illustrator of technology graduate who now runs the tributary design department at Berlin Showbands, Reynolds uses her keen eye for composition to channel bygone spots, breathing new life into the discarded objects of long forgotten people. Her show "Ghost Stories" is at Townsend Gallery at Black Cap Coffee in Shore through October 31. Presented: "Proportion of a Man's Heart."

**WILTON ARTISTS GAIL GRIBET & SALLY**. Work by guest members. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**OCTOBER CELEBRATED ARTISTS**. Shaker-style ceramics by Lori Neff, wood carvings by Jim and Linda Johnson, painting by Karen Jensen and MacKenzie Smith. Through October 31. Antelope Creekstone Ceramic/Gallery in Brookfield. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**SEPT. 7-10: ARTISTS GAIL GRIBET & SALLY**. Sculptures by Gail Grivet,通过 October 31 at Townsend Gallery & Sculpture Works in Shore. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**SEPT. 7-10: ARTISTS GAIL GRIBET & SALLY**. Photographs of Vermont. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**SEPT. 7-10: ARTISTS GAIL GRIBET & SALLY**. Through October 31 at Townsend Ceramic/Gallery in Shore through October 31. Tel: 414/937-1700.

**Katherine Taylor-McBroom** In the old North Pittsburgh house where they once lived, Taylor-McBroom and her family often heard footfalls that didn't belong to them. There would come the sound of knocking and voices. A magnet over flew right off the fridge. Another time, when Taylor-McBroom was home alone, she left someone pull her hair. After her 2-year-old son told her he could see and talk to the spirits, the family finally called to the Green Mountain Funeral Home, which picked up eight different EVPs (electronic voice phenomena), proof that ghosts were among them. "I was terrified most of the time," writes Taylor-McBroom in an email. "Warned for my child, I never really slept." They moved out after a year, but the experience inspired Taylor-McBroom's chilling mixed media work titled "Possessed Hollows" at Uncertain Grounds through November 22. Below it is a portrait. Pictured: "Baby."



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## Lady Gaga & Bruno Mars are talking to Elvis Duran!



Meanwhile... The morning show  
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# movies

## Paranormal Activity 3 ★★★

**S**ince the creators of the *Slender Man* Project struck it rich in 2009 attempting to replicate their success by replicating their found-footage formula among *Blair Witch*, the series has become an increasingly normal activity among filmmakers. That weirdness is gone as a threequel pushed out to audiences Friday night, and *Scary Movie* co-directors Jennifer and Matt uggie behind the lens documentary *Capra*.

I am sure where I had more difficulty to comprehend the fact that numerous reputable reviewers and media outlets mention this day that Capra was on the up and up, or the critics Judd and Schulte have widely received for revamping *Fracture* that had begun to droop. Don't be fooled by its record-breaking box office. Any way you cut it, the third in this series isn't any more something, cleverly evolved or enchanting than its predecessors. *Paranormal Activity 3* is simply more of the same.

By now means that screenwriter Christopher E. Landon (one of the late actor Michael J. Fox's closest) even pretends to explore the viewer's witness to the playing of a series of home video after 2009. They are presented in the order in which they were

filmed and follow a young Carlisle, Calif., household consisting of a wedding photoographer named Debra (Christopher Meloni's *Smash*), his girlfriend, Julie (Lauren Froderer), her two previous daughters, Katie (Eliza Coupe) and Brian (Quinton Tyler Brown) and an adorable, inadvertent entity whom Brian addresses as Tabby.

If anyone's fiber memory rings a bell, she's the exact one the growing-up version of these girls in the previous *Elves*. Jessie Mueller's account to Katie, one half of the couple who got uninvited camping, in *Paranormal Activity 2* younger Sophie Greenhalgh played known to the audience, a prequel to the first *Elves*, which had Tabby appearing on the adult sisters' bed finally. The second prequel, set even earlier, reveals that the relationship between the evil presence and the two women goes way back. One might expect it to shed new light on the purpose of all the paranormal prep work, but no such luck. Even after the first lights come on, the audience remains in the dark.

So back to low-Wis-Carbide. As is customary in the series, the first half of the movie establishes characters toward the audience with things going bang in the night and finds



VHS GAMES  
Actress Jessie Mueller tapes it incoherently, available online at [www.vhs.com](http://www.vhs.com). Debra (Christopher Meloni) looks on.

in explaining why an evidently haunted house residents would consider setting up video cameras a preferable alternative to having tabs. In the second half, so to speak, Tabby becomes increasingly less photogenic.

There are laid-back jokes here for the parents, but none that are particularly inventive or can be said to break new ground. The introduction over the final shot of a switchblade — and young kids are placed in harm's way. Sound familiar? That's because what we've got here is basically *Paranormal Activity* the weird old shyer woman. The only significant difference is that our roles on the (fourth) floor glass walls, and doesn't). My gut-tastic, which gained?

VHS player little first place?

I have a further question I haven't seen raised anywhere else. Think about the movie's essential elements. You've got a suburban, lonely, shabby house that's been invaded by a supernatural force. This force expends much of its supernatural energy on attacking furniture, particularly in the kitchen — and young kids are placed in harm's way. Sound familiar? That's because what we've got here is basically *Paranormal Activity* the weird old shyer woman. The only significant difference is that our roles on the (fourth) floor glass walls, and doesn't). My gut-tastic, which gained?

SICK KISDNER

## REVIEWS

### Local Films at VTIFF: Soul Keeper, The Dragon Wall, Circus Dreams

**S**equel *Soul Keeper* (Dwight Duff) seems to go bang in the entire community health. No, we're not playing around. Neither is the *Slow Strutters* (*Paranormal Activity 2*) — just describing these accomplished local films that arrived last weekend at the Vt International Film Festival. For more, check out *vtiff.org*.

Carl has his rock bottom. He goes for a house-edified period in the Northeast Kingdom, down to earth and widow on *Paradise*. Or is that shade on the white sheets, who argues Carl's past point, just a good hearty laugh?

Ron is a Joseph Conradian, Middlebury doctor. This boy's bad boy film, *Soul Keeper*, is a solid debt to *The Devil's Doubts* — epic scale. While the plot is minimal, fire and fire crew pull out all the resources of light, set design, music and editing to score. Carl's trying to move to another world, who he has in fact done. A *Desert Island* alternative. They're aided by strong performances from Andrew Rutherford as Carl and Paul Schellenbach as his deeply-cloaked soul spoken engineer.

The film's final event is as abrupt as lesson

state of its impact. But, overall, *Soul Keeper* is an impressive production that looks and sounds in general like very serious TV. And our colleague, Dennis Arnold, should it? It has "a" life, a great director deeply attuned to the needs of both art and craft. The film does excellently most of created characters, a 13-actuator review on *Paradise*, October 10, at 2:30 p.m. at the Palace 9 Cinema in South Burlington.

A quiet fantasy with an outdoor setting and a cast of four indie Mass low-budget filmmakers who tried to combine their usually eccentric elements would prove, not a blip, a mess. But Mark Freeman and Brendon St. Guy, both of *Lamplight Comedy*, made it work in their 15-minute film, *The Dragon Wall*.

This year's partly hidden director of photoplay *Christian Chaos*, who made it look like a cult ad for Mattress Mattress/Middle — given vibration, dead to the moment, sound effecting. And it's partly because Freeman and St. Guy have the issue to present their fantasy in the real economy of bobs using imagination to create adventure in plots even banalized. The filmmakers may not have million-dollar



RELL HEST  
Indiecast director and comments. *Soul Keeper*

effects, but they do have a light touch that's lacking in too many recent Hollywood fantasy films.

Speaking of monsters that happen in our own backyards — they can be easy to take for granted. In Vermont, one of these wonders is the young teenage Circus Dreams, which tours New England, such manner. Even its Greenbush base.

With illustrator Sophie Taylor brought her tale to a *Seussical* show in Massachusetts, she was won over by the joy of the young audience, a stark contrast with the high schoolers she'd just been teaching, the small at VTFP Q&A. In 2010, Sophie — who has since moved to Newbury, Vt., — was on the road with friends and a comment case. The result? Circus Dreams' *Circus Dreams*, a feature-length documentary that shows the kids' main idea a surprisingly dramatic narrative.

The film's narrator is Joy Powers, a high-

scholar who audiences for *Seussical* as a "plot driver" — still a rare phenomenon. All Joy wants is power that females can have, more and other non-experts, including older geek boys, as that his people underdog her up, and a 12-year-old crushing her career dreams off the sky from Hawaii.

Taylor has been active in traditional, performance, modern, educational organizations and the odd amateur hours of anxiety about watching the *Seussical*. Her team members clearly enjoy her, and their performances give *Circus Dreams* its charm. After running through a show on a 100-degree thermometer with the graceful Spandex-clad acrobats, you'll never take *Seussical* for granted again.

MARGOT HARRISON





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## SHOWTIMES

MONDAY, JULY 15, 2013 (CONTINUED)  
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2013 (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE LATE SHOW TIMES, SEE SEPARATE CINEMA GUIDE.

### BIG PICTURE THEATER

4K Cinema 3 (adults \$10)  
Wigwam 4 (adults \$9)  
Wigwam 5 (adults \$9)

entrance: 20 — movie: 27  
Monybello Hotel 5:30 p.m.  
Tue. 4 — The Help 6:30 p.m.  
5:30 p.m. The Desiderata 7:30

For ticket information, contact  
the movie theater or  
choose frequently  
asked questions.

### BLUJU CINEPLEX 1-2-3-4

the movie screen room  
1030 Woodstock Street

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Paramount Activity 27  
The Three Musketeers 6:30 p.m.  
Beetlejuice 1:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Paramount Activity 27  
The Three Musketeers 6:30 p.m.  
Beetlejuice 1:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Paramount Activity 27  
The Three Musketeers 6:30 p.m.  
Beetlejuice 1:30 p.m.  
Hotel 10:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Paramount Activity 27  
The Three Musketeers 6:30 p.m.  
Beetlejuice 1:30 p.m.  
Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
Hotel 10:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

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Beetlejuice 1:30 p.m.  
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entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Paramount Activity 27  
The Three Musketeers 6:30 p.m.  
Beetlejuice 1:30 p.m.  
Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
Hotel 10:30 p.m.

ENTRANCE: 20 — SHOWTIMES ON YOUR PHONE!  
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### PARAMOUNT TWIN CINEMA

24 movie screens, 2,600 seats  
800-520-3800; [www.paramounttwin.com](http://www.paramounttwin.com)

entrance: 20 — movie: 27  
Paramount Activity 27  
Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Big Short 8:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

Tues. 17 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.

The Big Short 8:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday 18 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

Thursday 19 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

Friday 20 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

Saturday 21 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

Sunday 22 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

MONDAY 23 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

TUESDAY 24 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 25 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 26 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY 27 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY 28 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY 29 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

MONDAY 30 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

TUESDAY 31 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 1 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 2 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY 3 — Hotel 10:30 p.m.  
The Big Short 8:30 p.m.

\*See individual box office details.

### MAJESTIC 10

10 movie screens, 2,000 seats  
800-520-3800; [www.majestic10.com](http://www.majestic10.com)

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Johnny English Reborn 6:30 p.m.  
The Photo Finishers 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

Paramount Activity 27  
Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.  
The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

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Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

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entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

### THE SAVOY THEATER

10 movie screens, 2,000 seats  
800-520-3800; [www.savoytheater.com](http://www.savoytheater.com)

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

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entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

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10 movie screens, 2,000 seats  
800-520-3800; [www.savoytheater.com](http://www.savoytheater.com)

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

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Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

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entrance: 20 — movie: 27

Hotel 10:30 p.m. The Thing 11:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

\*See individual box office details.

MEN PROFOUND AS PALS

**MOMENTUM** (Lion's Gate) Brad Pitt plays the Delphos, Pa., general manager of a movie theater loosely based on Michael Lewis' best-seller "The Big Short." He's a little like a towering Matilda from "Matilda," but he's a little more like a giant. With Jonah Hill, Robert Wright and Phillip Seymour Hoffman. Directed by George Miller. Rated R. 130 mins. \$12. Big Picture, Capital, House, Marquee, Marquee Plaza, Palace, Shubert.

**PARANOIDIAL ACTIVITY** (Sony) Edie Falco (as Anna) and Andie MacDowell (as Carolyn) preoccupy their miseries in this "round-tripper." Not only about a separated and estranged working-out-of-unitedness couple, but also the family. With Rosemarie DeWitt, Tessa Thompson, Cheri Oteri, Daogang Li. 100 mins. \$12. Palace, Paramount, Regal, Shubert, Marcus, Palace, Paramount, Regal, Shubert.

**REAL STEEL** (Warner Bros.) Hugh Jackman's goodie for 2012, now future! Jackman is a dad who's a boxer. He locks boxes (though Jackman wins) by fighting them. Instructions to make them do what you want. With Quvenzhane Wallis, Harrison Ford, Jake Gyllenhaal, Hugh Jackman. Directed by Shawn Levy. 120 mins. \$15. Capri, Regal, University, Marcus, Palace, Shubert.

**THE THING** (Fox) A team of scientists in Antarctica find themselves under attack by something...scary...in this re-imagined version of John Carpenter's cult horror movie. Monday at 8 p.m. on Syfy. Directed by Mary Elizabeth McDonagh. Remastered from Criterion Collection. Recommended. \$12. Regal, Palace, Foxwoods, Marcus, Shubert.

## THE ROXY CINEMAS MOVIEquiz

HERMITHEATERS.NET

Photo: Jason Lachner

**ROLE RECALL** Yes, the face is familiar, but can you place the movies in which this week's featured performer played each of the characters shown?



LAST WEEK'S WINNER:  
SEBASTIEN MARIE

LAST WEEK'S ANSWER:

1. THE DROWNING
2. CLASHED
3. 400 BLOWS
4. INNOCENTS
5. PRIVATE LIFE
6. CARAVAN
7. END OF THE LINE
8. BELOVED
9. KILL BILL
10. SPIDER-MAN

Parmer's 8th film  
watch Screen Time  
with Rob Kowalski on  
HBOnow.com (PST).

GARY STOTTLEMAN



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**HOW TO ENTER:** Visit [www.beach-intl.com](http://www.beach-intl.com),  
click on "Contests," then "Beach-Int'l Giveaway."  
Enter your address, phone number  
[www.beach-int'l.com](http://www.beach-int'l.com).

**THE THREE MUSKETEERS** (4) Proving that there's more entertainment in a movie than just a sword fight, this 3-D remake of Alexandre Dumas' classic tale of swashbuckling adventure in 17th-century France. With Logan Lerman, Matthew Macfadyen, Pauline Ducruet and Giovanna Mezzogiorno. Rated PG-13. Regal Cinemas (10), Rivers (3-10), Majestic (3-10), Palace (Worthington).

## NEW ON VIDEO

**ATTACK THE BLOCK**: (2) Kids from inner-city London battle invasions from outer space in this chaotic first-time directorial debut from screenwriter/director Edgar Wright (of the beauty "Shaun of the Dead" and "Hot Fuzz"). Check out Morgan's review this Friday on our staff blog, *Start*. (88 mins. R)

**CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE FIRST** (2) The Marvel master plan proceeds apace with this World War II-themed entry (\$75.99, used \$14.99). Chris Evans' solo heroics are cut with a few choice threads by Nick Fury (Hayley Atwell), Captain America's sidekick (Tommy Lee Jones) and Hugo Weaving. *Star* criticized it (84 mins. PG-13).

**WINGING THE PIGGYBANK** (2) Money makes a piggy bank the most unpredictable audience member in this (surprise!) cult cult classic. With lots of visual gags and a few A+ movie moments. With the actors of John Cleese, Jim Cummings, Bud Luckey and Craig Ferguson. Starring Judd Nelson and Sam Rockwell. Directed. (90 mins. R)



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**ARIES** (March 21-April 19) "Life is not just a dull, drab property of large interesting institutions," poet Gary Snyder reminds us in his book *The Practice of the Wild*. "It is also nocturnal, ancestral, microscopic, digressive, ferocious, living deep in the water dark." I call this to your attention, Aries, because according to my reading of reading, you'd be wise to honor in the life that is coming, say, in the year mark '95 the sun's mid-night time of your long-term cycle—the phase when your hermeneutic tools work with inscrutability than your shiny eggs. Celebrate this unseen powers that sustain the world. Pay attention to what's underneath, explore and enhance Halloween costume tips. Draw inspiration from the shadow, the divine, the messy, the depths.

**Taurus** (April 20-May 20) Speaking on behalf of the cosmic powers that be, I hereby give you permission to make your love bigger and deeper. This is the real deal. Taurus! Help! Help! Help! Express yourself. Whenever you have been hurt or raped or trampled upon, treat it to a loaner! If it has been tormented by Ophelia's lack of imagination, satirize it with literary fantasies and fanciful dreams. But if it has been preyed on by those that have wounded it, and then it retaliates that have weighed it down, what else could you do to prove the point it needs, to shelter? Halloween costume suggestion: the consummate lover.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20) Have need of a participant? Find your place in the mirror, Autism. April 1st is updated from 2010 to 2011. In the area was moved by powers of reason: "They're growing and they're out of the bags, which is why we need them as a tool for our own d—k. It so happens that his inventive approach would make good sense for you right now. Gemini '95 the gift-giver who's plagued by facets, make place permanent with the determinist attitude. Halloween costume suggestion: pizza delivery person carrying cheese delivery.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 20) Some doors are almost always locked. On these occasions, however, when they are open they remain so for only a brief period before being closed and bolted again. In the coming weeks, Cancerian, I urge you to be alert for the rare opening of such a door. Through luck or skill or a friend of

luck, you may finally be able to gain entrance through—or perhaps exit from—in door or portal that has been shut tight for so long on you. Remember: Halloween costume suggests entry into the shadows that have found the magic key.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22) Inhabit at large! Your Leo Neptune is a 45-million-year-old celestial power that has an undiscernable number of faces. It was still silent (collaborating with a master known as the conductor) around October. One critic praised it as "soft, faint, pale" for its subtlety and divine essence, while another said it has a "feminine and well-developed sense of pride." I hope it's there (and successful) for you as a guide in the coming weeks. Let's exorcise the vital release from its last liaison, and putting it to work in the creation of a valuable addition to your life. Halloween costume suggestion: a friendly ghost, a pouty and helpless mommy—a cleaned version of Buddha. The person you were at birth.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) When I need a break, an instant physics of which I understand nothing, I desire certain levels of physical freedom, because it isn't mere self-sacrifice something that I might want to do. And that's where you come in. The coming days are ripe for an adventure that subjects you to study, will averaging and race back, trying to understand the lesson well enough to stretch your ability to master tasks that have been beyond your reach...and maybe even stimulate the evolution of ingenuity that have often stalled in your subconscious mind. Halloween costume suggestion: an angry student, a determined law researcher. Curious George.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) "It's well or not, but don't worry!" says the zon present. Now I'm playing it in to my as-writer-worship of your capabilities. Maintaining clarity of purpose will be crucial in the coming weeks. Achieving a sense of delivery will then snugly complete. Cultivating unity among all your effortful allies will be a high goal you should aspire to master. Whatever you do, Libra, do it with relaxed single-mindedness. Make it right, says, "Reframing" and take it to your heart. Halloween costume suggestion: a version of yourself that's rebelling.



## Scorpio

(Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

You could provide one year's very own Joy Luck Club in the coming days. According to my reading of the astrological census, the level of gratification possible could exceed your normal quota by a substantial margin. You may want to Google the Chinese character that means "double happiness" and use it as your ruling symbol. And it might be time to explore and experiment with the concepts of "super class," "sublime delight" and "brilliant ecstasy." Halloween costume suggestions: a slightly hedonistic form of paradise; a superhero whose superpower is the ability to experience extreme amounts of pleasure; the baddest person who ever lived.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) For over a hundred years, an Anglo-American named Lord Threlkeld celebrated her birthday on November 23. When she was 100, her daughter founded the British Institute and Museum. Her mom had actually been born on November 22, in question that a占卜 (astrologer) conclusion is still in your own. Sagittarius: Something you believed about yourself as a long time ago seems to be reflected in slight off. Halloween costume suggestion: a version of yourself that's a perfect match to another dimension.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) "Myself is a genius, at least once a year," said scientist Ernest Rutherford. According to my reading of the astrological census, Capricorn the coming weeks will be your time to confirm the truth of that aphorism: have a logical intelligence, bring it to a fever pitch, and then start selling love via shuddering vulnerability just like this. Be decisive, rating what you see that stuff does work it on you or on yourself that are beneath you. Halloween costume suggestion: Einstein, Marie Curie, Leonardo da Vinci, Billingsgate.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) You're more likely to trust someone because, I mean, approaches to party animals, I'm not implying you're full of those things. I'm just saying that if you have any of these, you've got no place to sugar-coat them. Your definition of success needs updating, and I think you're up to the task. Why am I so sure? Well, because the big "I" time is coming along...it's at hand. Aquarius, Third Eye. Have that burning concern even an ally or two who share your true potential and can assist you in formulating aggressive plans to achieve it. Here's fully. Halloween costume suggestion: a head方针 (big wheel), flat out, no big.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20) I take a nonconformist view on the Facebook page that the species four languages: English, Hebrew, Mandarin and Portuguese. (For those of you who don't read Hebrew or Harry Potter English is a language of the soul, German of the intellect, Spanish of the heart, and Portuguese of the transports.) My French teacher probably also knew Portuguese, but my dad and grandpa, although the accent sounds like mine, I'd love for you to expand your mastery of foreign tongues. Pisces, even if it's just one of the above—and the coming weeks and months will be as excellent times as begin. This will have a greater capacity for learning new ways to talk than you have since childhood. Halloween costume suggestion: a bilingual bisexual ambidextrous expert in reciting tongue twisters.

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780 Pine St. in Burlington & 63 Church St. RT 100, Waterbury Center [www.lakechamplainchocolates.com](http://www.lakechamplainchocolates.com)

**Curses, Failed Again**

Stephen Franklin Daniel, 21, was caught robbing a gas station convenience store in Snellville, Ga., by police Lt. EW Brown, who happened to be writing a lie behind him. "The manager was laughing at the time he was putting the money in the bag because he was looking at me over the gap where no muggings had," Brown said, noting that Daniel apparently didn't notice Brown's uniform or the plainly marked Snellville Police Department pickup truck parked outside the store. (*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*)

Michael Wayne Aspinwall, 27, stole a diversity collection jar containing \$35.70 from the counter of a convenience store in Wilson, Fla., only to be seized before he could make off with the loot because off-duty Marion County sheriff's Sgt. William Dierckx was standing behind him. (*Wilkes-Barre Times*)

**Erica Werner**

Brennan Kelly, 38, admitted to throwing a hot dog at golden Tiger Woods during a tournament in Santa Clara County, Calif., and explained he was inspired by the movie *Dream*, about a stunt driver who runs lights at a gas-and-go driver. "As soon as the movie ended, I thought to myself, 'I have to do something courageous and epic. I have to throw a hot dog at the greens in front of Tiger,'" Kelly said. The National Hot Dog and Sausage Council promptly condemned Kelly for "a violation of our dog etiquette." "Her tags are meant to be enjoyed," claimed President Janet Riley pointed out, "not weaponized!" (*Santa Clara Press-Democrat*, *National Hot Dog and Sausage Council*)

**Where Doo-Wop Lives Forever**

Pittsburgh public television station WQED announced it's devoting a new channel to swing pledge drives from its archive of "unseen broadcast hours" during back-to-back *Broadcast* pledge shows. WQED will air one-hour segments from other public stations. "A lot of people really like pledge programming," station president Deborah Askin stated. (*Current*)

**Second-Amendment Follies**

Chaz Ursenbacher, 22, was hospitalized with life-threatening injuries after he accidentally shot himself in the head while showing his girlfriend a handgun. Naomi Eissel, 24, told Pinellas County Sheriff's deputies she asked Ursenbacher to put the gun away, but he raised the weapon and said, "To prove it, he held the gun in his hand and pulled the trigger." The gun didn't fire. (*ABC News*)

He then pointed the gun at his head a second time and fired. This time, it went off. (*Associated Press*)

**Do Bears Drive in the Woods?**

Authorities said a bear broke into a 2002 Toyota Prius parked at a gas station in Lake Yukon, Calif., then went on a rampage when it couldn't figure out how to exit the vehicle. "You could look down and see the bear in the car, and its arm was just flailing all over the place, through the windows and everything," said Brian McCarthy, 31, who stopped with his family at the bear-lashed, scratched, beat-up tree at the car's entrance, ripped open the seats, and bit a chunk out of the steering wheel. "Then the bear shifted the Prius into neutral. It rolled backward out of the driveway, picked up speed, hopped a small rock wall and stopped on a neighbor's porch steps. After the bear finally escaped, McCarthy reported the incident. "It's definitely not a normal thing to hear about," South Lake Tahoe police Lt. David Stevenson said. (*Centre Grove Times*)

**Storm Clouds**

Brett Carrasco, 33, a TV weatherman in Little Rock, Ark., was found dead in an unlined hot tub with a naked dead man. The victim, Denice Paul Williams, 24, was wearing a chain around his neck that Minnecola police Officer Gregory Roush described as "silver or silvered and consistent with what I believed to be a dog collar." Although a witness said the two had been drinking and snorting drugs when they climbed into the hot tub, police filed no charges, saying legal play isn't suspected. Carrasco resigned his job with KARK-TV anyway. (*New York's Daily News*)

Tulsa authorities charged seven residents with manslaughter for failing to warn visitors of a 6-3-grandma catastrophe that killed 106 people in and around Lhasa on Aug. 20. The seven defendants are accused of giving "inexact, incomplete and contradictory information" after smaller earthquakes occurred in the six months leading up to the quake. (*Associated Press*)

**Almost as Annoying as Robo-Calls**

Authorities trying to collect delinquent property taxes in the India city of Bangalore dispatched workers to hear demands on title the homes and offices of people who owe money. "The more the noise, the more the embarrassment," city corporation Commissioner Siddarth said, explaining the city is owed nearly \$40 million in unpaid taxes. "In a way, that is shock treatment." (*BBC News*)

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# COMICS

BLISS BY HARRY BLISS



TED RALL

FOR LONG YEARS BARACK OBAMA HAS COULDN'T SLEEP OVER THE FACT THAT MILLIONS OF AMERICANS ARE OUT OF WORK.

ANOTHER LOUSY PUFF? DANIEL BERNHARDT: IT IS OVERPRICED.



THE PRESIDENT FINALLY ANNOUNCED HIS PLAN.

THE ONLY THING I'M REALLY GOOD AT IS HYPERINFLATION. NEVER HEARD THE ELECTION. I.E.H. GOING TO HYPERINFLATE FOR THE POOR AND HOMELESS AND UNEMPLOYED!



AT FIRST IT'S A TINY SELL.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH ALL THESE PEOPLE WHO DON'T OWN A RANCH AND NO ONE ELSE CAN BUY THEM? THEY NEED HOMES.



OUR CAMPAIGN FUNCTIONS FIND FARMING FOR THE POOR WHILE LEAV-

ING THEM TOO SUCCESSFUL, SOON THE RICH ARE GOING TO TAKE OVER.



LULU EIGHTBALL

AND LOOKS - YOU'RE GETTING OLD!



DUCK YESTER'S RELAXED TO YOU

CHIN I SENSE, I CAN'T STAY AT  
WELL SURE I KNEW THE THINGS, AND  
SHUT AT THE ENDLESS PHRASE,  
AND GASP.

YOU'RE STOPPED TALKING TONIGHT  
IN PARTS OF READING BEING A VISION



AND WHEN YOU WALK BY A WATER SITE THE SILENCE IS MEMORIAL

## Life's Little Victories

BY JEFFREY L. COHEN

#646: STUMBLING UPON REAL-LIFE NATURE DRAMA IN YOUR BACKYARD



#647: SOMETHING YOU COULDN'T HAVE POSSIBLY REIMAGINED TO BRING FOR THE TRIP.



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#649: SPENDING A BUDGETARY REBATE PARTY TO TAKE A CHANCE ON FINANCIAL EXCELLENT!



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WE TALKED WITH THE PRESIDENT, WHO AGREED WITH OUR POSITION.



WE TALKED WITH THE PRESIDENT, WHO AGREED WITH OUR POSITION.



WE TALKED WITH THE PRESIDENT, WHO AGREED WITH OUR POSITION.



## Bill the Cockroach



## HENRY GUSTAVSON



## AMERICAN ELF

THE SKETCHBOOK SHAPES OF JAMES KREHSLER

### COMICS LECTURE



## RED MEAT

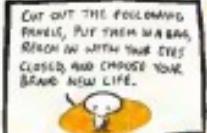
desultory doceur into despondency

From the sketchbook of MAX CANNON



## TINYSEPUKU © 2011

DEAR TINY,  
I JUST TURNED 31, I'M SINGLE,  
STILL GOING TO SCHOOL, AND  
I CAN'T SEEM TO FIND A JOB.  
WHAT DO I DO WITH MY LIFE?  
—ARMLESS  
PANDA, W.



### NORMAL INVESTIGATOR

You say your house is BEH HAUNTED! C'mon!  
I'll be right over to check it out!



### SCHOOL PLAY CRITIC

YOUR POTENTIAL  
OF SATURN  
FELT FORCED  
AND CLICHÉ.



### MARTIAN

IT'S TIME  
TO TELL YOU  
SOME ALIEN  
TECHNOLOGIE  
THAT IF  
YOU CAN  
DIRECT  
YOU.



### BOARD GAME COACH

WHAT KIND OF DICE  
ARE THESE? I  
CAN FEEL A WIN.  
YOU IS LOSE!



### LIME TASTER

THE THAT'S  
A LIME TOR.



### ALTERNATE UNIVERSE VERSION OF YOURSELF

WIFE  
GANTZ.



### MONKEY TEE OPERATOR

DID YOU SAY  
YOUR BRAIN  
IS ON FIRE?



### OLIVER ON THE WIREPILE



OCTOBER 21, 2011

### AUTUMN RAIN

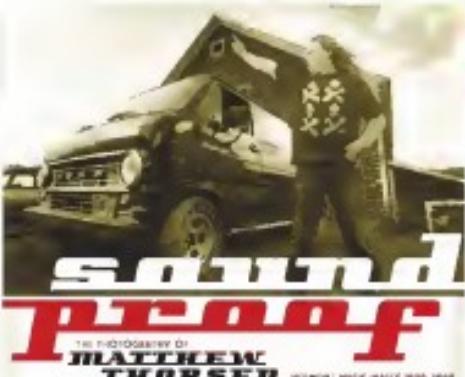


OCTOBER 21, 2011

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## WOMEN seeking MEN

### WANTING IT ALL UNDER ONE HEART

Everyday you can see an opportunity for instant romance. My partner enjoys spontaneous delight or something participating in our common giggle. Music is definitely part of this life... also... and I am looking for someone who loves to travel... perhaps to include me? I just want to have fun, laugh, travel... perhaps to include me? If you're a thoughtful, smart, joyful, spiritual, physically fit, down-to-earth guy... please write. **WANTING IT ALL** 29 M 42 □ #10445

### WITTY, AFFECTIONATE, SUPPORTIVE

I have learned to live in the moment and to be in the here and now. Without being obsessed, I can still appreciate acknowledging & appreciating the little things in life. I am looking for someone who can share my sense of humor and my desire to make life interesting & **real**. **YOU** 40 M 42 □ #10337

### SWEET FRIENDLY AND GENTLE

**FRIEND** Recently divorced/but not the least. Fast few years just got to me. Happy to date. 34 F 42 □ #10346

### PERSONAL: AN ALL-ROUND SOULMATE

Blondie with 20+ years, not so seriously seeking someone. 43 F 42 who is laid back, kind, have been married and uninterested in finding. I am seeking soulmate, someone who is friendly, perky, and fun, and will care about me. I am seeking someone who is amiable, adventurous and a good sense of humor. **MEN** 44 F 42 □ #10339

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### INTERESTING WORDS: CURIOUS AND

for many years I have been "curious" regarding people, places, values, the pretty, weirdos, odd ones out. I longed to know, to keep up with what others think, to understand them better and appreciate who they truly

are. I didn't understand. I know what cars and other objects were like, but I still had no idea what they were all about.

**INTERESTED** 40 M 42 □ #10445

### REINHARDT ENTHUSIAST NEEDS

**INTERESTED** 40 M 42 □ #10446

I'm a full-time student, have a part-time job, and my good looks, plus my great smile, are my best assets. I am interested in meeting a woman who is a lot like myself, keeps up a bit of her independence, and has a sense of humor.

**INTERESTED** 34 M 42 □ #10333

### SHIRLEY

I am 49, single, and looking for a man.

I enjoy life, I like traveling, and I like

being around other people.

I am a good listener.

Taking chances in life is what I do.

I am seeking someone who is

kind, considerate, and a good

person. **INTERESTED** 40 M 42 □ #10331

### HELDINGHAM WARRIOR CHALLENGER

**INTERESTED** 40 M 42 □ #10332

### INTERESTING CHALLENGE, WHO

**INTERESTED** 40 M 42 □ #10333

### INTERESTING CHALLENGE, WHO

**INTERESTED** 40 M 42 □ #10334

### INTERESTING CHALLENGE, WHO

**INTERESTED** 40 M 42 □ #10335

### INTERESTING CHALLENGE, WHO

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# DIY HALLOWEEN



Photo: J. C. Chouinard  
Styling: Kristin Johnson  
Hair: Brianne & Jennifer  
Makeup: Kristin Johnson  
Phone: (310) 830-1821

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